

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

20 years on  
The condition of America's black population two decades after Martin Luther King said: "I have a dream..."

Two weeks off  
Friday page reports on what children really think of the holidays their parents choose.

Winning ways  
The image that means President Reagan will win a second term in 1984.

Losing touch  
Are Canada's Liberals preparing to dump Prime Minister Trudeau?

Home thoughts...  
How the Leicester Building Society discovered marketing with a capital "M"...

...from abroad  
The New Zealand tourists face England in the fourth Test; the European Swimming Championships in Rome.

## Kidnappers kill leading protester

The owner of the Argentine magazine *Quidam*, Señor Guillermo Patrino Kelly, a leading human rights protester, was kidnapped here yesterday and later found dead, officials sources said. An underground group, "Free Argentina" claimed responsibility.

## Way clear for nuclear sell-off

The way is clear for the privatization of British Nuclear Fuels, according to Mr Con Allday, chairman of the state-owned nuclear waste reprocessing and fuel enrichment company, which yesterday announced a £20m profit increase to £54.6m.

## Coal warning

Sir Norman Siddall has warned Mr Ian MacGregor, his successor as coal board chairman, not to risk conflict with the miners by accelerating the industry's rundown.

## Turks' poll limit

Only three parties can contest the Turkish election in November, after 14 others were excluded by the military regime of President Evren.

## Mayfair sale

BTR, the engineering conglomerate which took over the Thomas Tilling group two months ago, is selling Tilling's Mayfair headquarters, Crew House. It is said to want £50m.

## Polish release

Mr Wladyslaw Haredek, an underground leader of Solidarity who surrendered to the Polish police, was released after being questioned.

## Aquino inquiry

President Marcos of the Philippines has announced that a special commission will investigate the assassination of Benigno Aquino, the opposition leader shot dead.

## Scientific talks

The meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science are reported on page 4.

## Essex prosper

Centuries by Goech and McEwan put Essex in a commanding position against Worcester-shire in the county championship yesterday. Report, page 18.

## Letters: On the Soviet challenge, from Dr George Ignatieff, and Mr Brian Thomas, youth training, from Mr Paul Lewis; Dartmoor spraying, from Lady Sayer.

## Leading articles: Detention under Mental Health Acts; Soviet-US grain deal; Convertible cars

## Features, pages 8, 10

## The poverty lobby looks for more public money; Russia's eternal queue; an MP campaigns against cant; Spectrum: Profile of Sir Bernard Lovell

## Books, page 9

## The latest children's books from picture books to novels for young people, and from humour to computer books, reviewed by Brian Alderson, our children's books editor, and his team of reviewers

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# Rush for A-plates brings record August car sales

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The fiercest price war ever experienced in the British car market has led to sales in the first two-thirds of this month reaching a record 304,000 - well in excess of the total for the whole of August last year.

Sales for the month, boosted by the introduction of the "A" prefix registration plate and an estimated £50m in dealer incentives, are on target to break through the 350,000 mark, much higher than the most optimistic manufacturers were predicting a few months ago.

British car workers - and the Government - can also take heart from a significant drop in imports in the first 20 days of August and a startling 11 per cent fall in the market share captured by cars produced elsewhere in the European Community compared to the same period last year.

The danger for the industry is that the August boom may be

sucking in sales from the rest of the year and as a result the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders continues to be cautious about increasing its 1983 forecast of 1.7m sales, still lower than the previous annual record 1.72m of 1979.

The 20-day figure of 303,943 is 21.2 per cent higher than the same period a year ago. Cars made in Britain captured 82.78 per cent while imports, which were running at nearly 60 per cent in August 1982, have been cut back to 57.22 per cent. The Japanese share remained relatively depressed at 10.55 per cent.

The number of cars in the 20-day figure originating from within the EEC was 119,814, giving a share of 39.42 per cent against 50.41 per cent a year ago. This includes cars from the European factories of Ford and General Motors.

Ford took 30.1 per cent of the 20-day market followed by BL with 19.1 per cent, and Vauxhall/Opel with 14.4 per cent.

The continued success of Vauxhall, and in particular its Cavalier and Astra models, has given the company the prospect of achieving its goal of a 16 per cent market share two years earlier than planned, a spokesman said yesterday.

Vauxhall has sold 182,911 cars so far this year, 1,450 more than in the whole of 1982. Now it believes it will sell 250,000 in 1983, giving a market share of 15.5 per cent.

BL announced last night that it was raising the prices of most Austin Rover cars by 4.5 per cent from midnight on Sunday. The move, which follows Ford's decision to impose a 4.9 per cent rise from August 15, reflects manufacturers' growing unease at the impact on their finances of the cut-throat competition among dealers.

Neither increase, however, will affect cars already in the showrooms.

# Lowest exports this year put Britain in the red

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

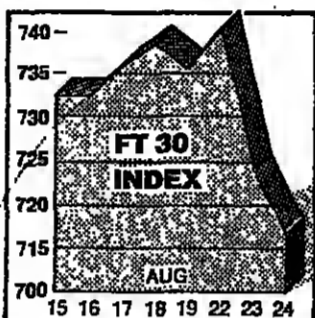
A sharp drop in exports to the lowest level since January pushed Britain's balance of payments unexpectedly into the red last month.

The fall in exports is bound to alarm the Government. With the consumer boom already showing signs of levelling off, ministers have been pinning their hopes on export-led growth to keep the economy moving ahead.

Officials said yesterday that it was too soon to judge whether the trend in exports was downwards this year. But the Department of Trade and Industry conceded that the volume of exports in the last three months was 3 per cent lower than the preceding three months.

Combined with a relatively modest rise in imports last month, the fall in exports left Britain's visible trade in deficit by £350m last month, compared with a revised surplus of £162m the previous month.

Including the estimated surplus of £250m on invisible trade, such as shipping and banking, the current account showed a deficit of £100m last month. That was about £250m worse than market expectations



and marks a £512m turnaround from the revised June surplus.

The Government's Budget forecast of a £1,500m balance of payments surplus this year is beginning to look increasingly remote, although the Treasury said that the £478m surplus so far this year was only slightly lower than that implied by the Budget prediction.

The poor trade figures added to the pound's woes on the foreign exchange markets yesterday. Sterling lost 1 cent against the dollar to \$1,519 and eased against continental currencies. Its trade-weighted value fell by 0.1 to 85.6.

On the stock market, shares fell again because of worries about public spending problems and the gloomy forecast for the economy from the National Institute of Economic and

Social Research. The index of the top shares fell 7.4 to 716.6 for a two-day fall of 23.8.

The poor July trade figures were affected by a lower surplus on oil trade and erratic items such as precious stones and aircraft.

Imports of £15,300m in the latest three months were 1.5 per cent higher in volume than the three months before, but the Department of Trade and Industry said the underlying level was stable after the sharp rise early in the year.

However, the trend in exports is more worrying, the fall of 7.5 per cent to £4,730m last month was broadly based, reflecting lower exports of semi-processed goods other than chemicals and lower oil and capital goods deliveries.

One lift of bright news for the Government was a prediction from Royal Bank of Scotland that it was heading for an unexpected £1,000m windfall from the North Sea.

Royal Bank said this year's Budget forecast of £8,000m in North Sea oil revenues was well short of the mark and the Government could now expect at least £9,000m.

Market Report, page 14  
City Editor, page 15

# Aviemore Centre for sale by Fraser

By Philip Robinson

The Aviemore Centre, Scotland's best known skiing resort, is for sale. The asking price is thought to be more than £3m.

The owner, the stores group House of Fraser, which also owns Harrods, said last night that it was for sale as part of a major group review of assets.

Aviemore, the company said, was not profitable enough. A Fraser spokesman added: "It has suffered the same fate as many other leisure places. But there is no question of our closing the centre. We have received some interested inquiries."

At the same time, Professor Roland Smith has rejected a 60 per cent pay rise and the House of Fraser, which is chairman of the company, said last night, he will remain chairman on a part-time basis at £50,000 a year.

The two-year contract he has rejected, would have included £80,000 a year pay, a pension scheme share option rights, a car, a chauffeur and a house in London. It was fiercely opposed by Lorrho, Fraser's biggest shareholder which has two representatives on the Fraser

board. The two sides have been locked in battle over whether to float off Harrods as a separate company.

Aviemore was opened in 1962 at a cost of £2.7m and was the idea of the late Lord Fraser of Allander, founder of the stores group and father of the Glasgow businessman, Sir Hugh Fraser, who was once chairman of his father's empire.

But Mr Ian Henderson, a spokesman for the centre said, "We have had a superb summer following the best winter season for three years and the centre is bursting at the seams," he said.

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lorrho director, said: "The sale comes as a complete surprise to me. They seem to be selling everything, it's appalling."

Professor Smith was appointed as Fraser chairman in an attempt to stave off a takeover bid from Lorrho. Its £220m offer two years ago was vetoed by the Monopolies Commission, after which Lorrho promised the Government it would not increase its influence over the company.

# The date the dinosaur died leads to sharp words

From Pearce Wright, British Association, Brighton

Almost every theory about the cause of the extinction of the dinosaur took a tumble yesterday when two of Britain's acknowledged authorities joined forces to rebut the 40 or so different hypotheses that claim to account for their disappearance.

In a joint attack, Dr Alan Charing, the dinosaur curator of the Natural History Museum in London, and Dr Beverley Halstead of the Departments of Geology and Zoology at Reading University, criticized "pseudoscientific" theories proposed by amateurs who looked for immortality by trying to provide a simplistic explanation of what happened to the dinosaurs.

The presented evidence that

dinosaurs were alive and well at least 750,000 years after the various theories would have killed them off. The dinosaurs were not destroyed by the impact on the Earth 64 million years ago of a 15km wide asteroid, which was said to have caused dramatic changes in the climate.

They were not extinguished, according to Dr Charing and Dr Halstead, as another theory suggests, because the species suffered an epidemic of cataracts of the eye caused by an increase in the solar radiation or by a burst of radioactivity from the formation of a star.

Advocates of the various propositions who came under the lash of Dr Charing and Dr Halstead were not journalists or laymen speculating on a subject in which they were out of their depth, but were physicists, climatologists, chemists and other scientists who, in Dr Halstead's view, "seem to believe that only their discipline of science can provide the answer".

Dr Charing says the issue turns on whether or not the extinction was sudden, or an event which happened within 10,000 years. Their rejection of each theory had a rigorous analytical basis. For example, the idea of the asteroid impact, which created a dust veil in the atmosphere around the entire Earth, is based on the existence of an unusual level of iridium (rare in normal samples of the



Street riot: A Pakistani policeman firing tear gas grenades at stone-throwing demonstrators in the Chakiwara district of Karachi.

# Terror in the streets of Pakistan

From Michael Hamlyn, Karachi

With tears running down her cheeks from the effect of a riot gas shell going off in her back yard, a grey-haired woman in pale blue shalwar and kameez - the Pakistani national dress of baggy trousers and long shirt - took off her sandle and walloped a policeman on the shoulder with it.

He seemed to be four times her size, twice as tall and twice as broad, and he shrugged her off. Other women in her family wailed and shouted. A young girl sobbed and showed off bloodstains on her flowered kameez.

A few minutes earlier the young woman had been prominent among a group of teenagers standing on the roof of the house throwing stones at the police in the street below.

Now they were all protesting the brutality of the grey shirted police, who had rushed the house and dragged the young people out to put a stop to the stone-throwing.

The incident was sparked off by the arrest of the man of the house, a former minister in the provincial government of Sind, Mr Ali Ahmed Sumro.

He attempted to lead off a procession calling for an end to the martial law regime of General Zia ul-Haq.

He was hurriedly dumped into the back of a police pickup, where he was set upon by a number of plain clothes police. He was shouting the while: "Down with Zia, down with Zia."

The area is in the Lyssi district of Karachi and is a stronghold of the Pakistan People's Party, to which the former Prime Minister, Mr Bhutto belonged, and Mr Sumro's arrest was the signal a great many people hanging around on street corners had been waiting for.

They picked up missiles from the crumbling surface of Kalri Road, and lobbed them at police. The police replied by throwing them back, and following up with tear gas.

The riot then followed the same pattern as a similar riot the day before in the Chakiwara district a few streets away. A game of hide and seek in the alleys and by-ways of the district ended with further arrests. Soon after dark both sides went home to supper.

The official death toll in Sind province yesterday was given as 21. Altogether, according to a government spokesman, 1,219 people have been arrested since the troubles began on Independence Day, August 14.

Elsewhere in the province small handfuls of men courted arrest on the tenth day of the campaign of civil disobedience called by the outlawed eight-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy. There were no reports of large scale violence, although two major

Continued on back page, col 6

# Beith appeals for stronger Alliance

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

Mr Alan Beith, the Liberal Chief Whip, reacted to party infighting with a public assurance last night that party activists would "exercise the self-discipline which is needed to demonstrate that we are potentially the next Government".

But his statement, made on Channel 4's *News Comment*, was bound to be taken as an appeal for peace at the party's Conference, which starts on September 19.

Liberal and Social Democratic Party leaders are increasingly concerned that Liberal activists will erode Alliance credibility, built up at the general election with continued battles over policy and tactics.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, has let it be known that he would resign if the party assembly voted to take away his right of veto over the contents of the general election manifesto, and he has shown marked impatience with MPs and others who have criticized his management of the election campaign.

Mr Beith made his indirect appeal for unity when he said: "The voters are expecting a lot of us."

He said that Labour had excluded itself from the essential task of opposition to the Conservative Government by internal wrangling and total commitment to policies which would always be rejected by the voters.

# Yachtsman knocked out by collision

By Rupert Morris

The forthcoming party conference season would show that while the Conservatives believed in the careful concealment of dissent, Labour would have plenty of free discussion without free decision. "The decisions are taken by the block-boots of the 'trade unions' wielded in the name of millions by the few."

Mr Beith then added: "I am confident that when Liberals gather to plan the presentation of our ideas during the course of this Parliament, the end result will be a determination to continue and strengthen the immensely successful partnership of Liberals and Social Democrats; to bring to the partnership, quite openly, the distinctive political traditions from which we have come to shared conclusions about how best to serve Britain's needs."

He concluded: "That is what many thousands of active Liberal and SDP supporters in the country are ready and willing to do."

The latest edition of *Liberal News*, published yesterday, carried an article by a party member which said: "The Alliance has effectively changed places with the Labour Party. It is the latter who are now plagued by lost deposits and third places."

"It is ironic then that we are showing all the symptoms of catching the Labour Disease of excessive internal feuding."

Mr Robin Knox-Johnston, aged 44, the former round-the-world yachtsman, was recovering yesterday from being knocked unconscious and having his racing catamaran badly damaged in a collision off the Spanish coast.

He and his wife Sue, who was taking part with him in a two-handed round-trip race between Plymouth and Viana, Portugal, were rescued by a Spanish fishing boat.

Both were said to be in good health, and Mr Knox-Johnston spent much of the day attending to his damaged boat in the port of Coruna, near Coruna.

He said last night that he had felt the "tremendous blow", which he thought would turn the boat over. Then he was unconscious for between five and ten minutes. When he recovered they tried in vain to repair the mast and block holes in the bows.

"Eventually the bows went under the water and the boat became unsteerable. I got very worried", he said.

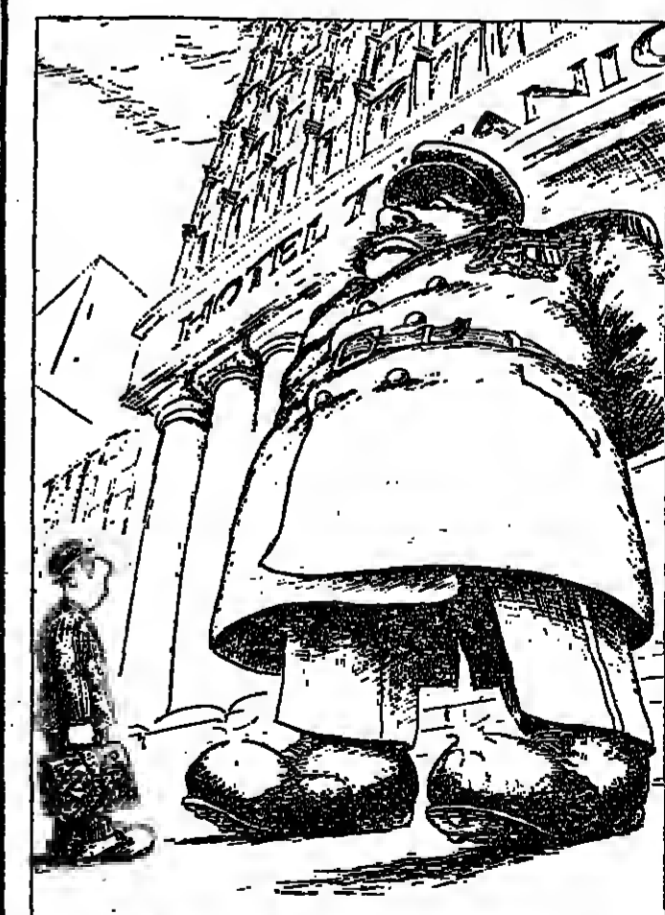
# Hattersley tipped for knife-edge victory

By Our Political Correspondent

Labour's deputy leadership contest, which is expected to end with a run-off between Mr Roy Hattersley and Mr Michael Meacher, could result in a "knife-edge victory for Mr Hattersley according to the latest issue of the *New Statesman*, published today.

An analysis by the Socialist Weekly concludes: "The deputy leadership election in October could be as close as 1981, when Denis Healey beat Tony Benn by less than 1 per cent."

But whereas a recent survey by *The Sunday Times* suggested Mr Meacher could beat Mr Hattersley by 11.6 per cent, the



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### Sculpture blaze man dies

The man injured in the fire which destroyed the equestrian sculpture of a Polish died yesterday in the burns unit of Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton.

### Labour will lose city £1.6m

Labour-controlled Liverpool City Council was accused yesterday by Liberal members of planning to cut more than £400,000 from social services to build more houses - even though 1,000 council properties are empty.

### £6.7m target for left-wing paper

Trade union leaders yesterday agreed to seek the approval of Britain's labour movement next month for their campaign to start up a new daily newspaper of the left.

### Police hunt for killers

More than fifty detectives are hunting a gang of muggers who killed one man and left another critically injured. The dead man was found in bushes in the Townhead district of Glasgow on Monday.

### Ford spare-part prices investigated

Ford in Britain is to be investigated for alleged anti-competitive behaviour in its control over manufacture of spare body parts.

## Outgoing NCB chief warns against conflict with miners over too-rapid rundown

Sir Norman Siddall, the National Coal Board's outgoing chairman, has warned his successor, Mr Ian MacGregor, not to risk a conflict with the miners by running down the industry too rapidly.

He discounted the prospect of an early strike against Mr MacGregor. He said: "There has got to be quite a combination of factors put together to get an all-out strike in the coal industry. Very often in that situation it might be something quite unexpected that coalesces the workforce."

He said that the NCB would be able to bring out all his anti-Tebbit political ideas and one thing and another. "The outcome of such a strike would depend entirely on the resolution of our political masters and what the conclusion is likely to be."

### Telecom unions to increase action

Telecommunication engineers will today increase industrial action aimed at preventing the link between the private Mercury system and the British Telecom network which is being encouraged by the Government.

### Strike halts work on destroyer

Work on the new Royal Navy destroyer came to a standstill yesterday when Tyne-side shipyard workers walked out in protest at continuing job losses in their industry.



### Good temperament of the £7m colt

The most expensive yearling in the world (above with stable lad) is showing no signs of a temperament to match his £7m price tag as he settles in to stables in Sussex, his trainer, Mr John Dunlop, said yesterday.

The chestnut colt, sired by Northern Dancer out of American mare My Bupars, was bought by an Arab oil millionaire Sheikh Mohammed Al-Maktoum, of Dubai, at the Keeneland sales in Kentucky last month.

He arrived at Mr Dunlop's Arundel stables last Thursday and has started his training programme by being exercised in a paddock. Although he has not been officially named, he is called "Dancer" by stable staff.

### Asbestos products to go in 5 years

The manufacture of asbestos products is likely to disappear in Britain over the next five years as a result of stricter controls, industry sources said yesterday.

Mr Dennis Shadbolt, Swan's director of personnel and industrial relations, said: "Where we have reduced we have got to make up the shortfall by greater efficiency. The number of employees is out of the question."

### Bomb link with Angry Brigade

The police were last night almost certain that the Angry Brigade was responsible for the bombing last Saturday night of the American Express office in the City of London.

### RUC seeks wife of most wanted man

Detectives in Northern Ireland want to question the wife of Dominic McGlinchey, Ireland's most wanted man, in connection with the murder of police constable at a security checkpoint in Co Tyrone last May.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary also believes that Mrs Mary McGlinchey, a mother of two in her mid-twenties, may be able to help them identify the masked woman who fired a volley of shots over the coffin of Gerard Mallon last week.

Police constable Colin Carson died in Coolstown, Co Tyrone, when someone in a van opened fire on a security checkpoint outside the town's police station. The abandoned vehicle was later found with women's clothing inside.

Mr McManan's appeal follows similar statements from Kirkpatrick's mother, father and stepfather. His pleas have increased since his stepfather and half-sister were freed by the police from INLA captivity last week.

### Sun loses appeal over Hindley

The Sun newspaper failed yesterday in its attempt to have lifted the ban on publishing extracts of a statement made in support of an application for parole by Myra Hindley, who was jailed for life in 1966 for her part in the moors murders.

Two judges in the Court of Appeal dismissed the application by News Group Newspapers, the publishers against the High Court ban, won on Tuesday by Hindley who claimed breach of her copyright and confidence.

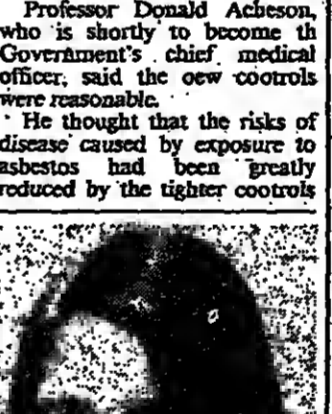
Lord Justice Kerr said that it was a "plain case of a flagrant infringement of copyright", unless The Sun could prove it was a so-called "fair dealing" of the confidential documents. That would be a matter for the full trial of Hindley's copyright action against The Sun, the judge.

The judges ordered that the publicity ban, originally ordered to apply until Friday, must now run until the main trial of Hindley's action, which might not be for several weeks.

During the hearing, Mr Leonard Hoffman QC for The Sun, conceded that Hindley held the copyright in her 22,000-word statement which was written in 1978. But he said that the paper was entitled to publish the statement as part of its "fair dealing" of a criticism of a literary work. The statement was and relevant to current events.

### Stillborn verdict on baby of Gail Kinchin

Injuries caused by police bullets which killed a girl being used as a shield by a gunman also caused the death of her unborn child, a Birmingham inquest was told yesterday.



Gail Kinchin: Hit by three bullets.

The mother, Gail Kinchin, was aged 16 when she was admitted to hospital after the shooting in June 1980. The baby was dead and the mother died a month later, aged 17.

She had been hit by three bullets when her boy friend, David Pagett, who was 31, used her as a "shield" in the exchange of shots with the Police at a block of flats at Rubery, Birmingham. Pagett was jailed for 12 years after being convicted of her manslaughter and the attempted murder of three people, including two police officers.

It was said that police marksmen returned Pagett's fire and at his trial, she said that they did not know the girl was being used as a shield.

Dr James Burns, senior lecturer in pathology at Liverpool University, said yesterday that there was a bullet injury to the placenta. He read a surgeon's report stating that there were two bullet holes.

Dr Richard Whittington, the Birmingham coroner, told the jury that it could not bring in a verdict that the baby was unlawfully killed because technically the child had not lived. Its verdict had to be that the baby was stillborn.

The mother, Gail Kinchin, was aged 16 when she was admitted to hospital after the shooting in June 1980. The baby was dead and the mother died a month later, aged 17.

### Scots seek to lure US plant

A United States electronics firm seeking to expand into Europe is considering opening a factory in Scotland after a big purchase of its shares by the Scottish Development Agency.

International Microelectronic Products (IMP) of San Jose, California, is drawing up proposals for a £60m development which will create up to 1,500 jobs by the end of the decade.

IMP, which makes integrated circuits, has had talks with the Livingstone Development Agency with a view to siting its factory in the new town. A final decision is expected early next year.

The Scottish Development Agency bought half a million preference shares in the company last December. Its investment totalled £620,000, but that has now doubled and it is expected to make a profit of millions of pounds.

### Drive to coax companies into the Third World

The Government is to run an advertising campaign encouraging British companies to invest in factories in developing countries.

Trade unions argue that such investments are only "exporting jobs". But the Department of Trade and Industry is known to be concerned about a serious lack of foreign investment by British firms against major competitors.

Studies have shown that a manufacturing or assembly plant in the Third World is a significant stimulator of direct exports of goods, especially components, from the parent country.

The advertisements will emphasize that the cost of government-provided insurance - giving cover against such things as nationalization, war

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Island for sale: The 50-acre island of Jethou, three miles from Guernsey, is to be sold. It is the third private Channel island to come on the market in the past two months.

The lease of the island, which is Crown property, is being put up for sale by Lady Hayward, widow of the millionaire Sir Charles Hayward, who died in February. Offers of half a million pounds upwards are being invited.

The Haywards, who bought the lease in 1971, carried out extensive improvement to the early nineteenth century house (above).

Jethou's best known tenant was the author Sir Compton Mackenzie, who lived there from 1923 to 1930.

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# Police hunting men who assaulted boy lack vital computer software

Sussex police hunting for the three men who sexually assaulted a six-year-old boy in Brighton are having to sift through thousands of filing cards by hand because they do not have the right software to do it by computer.

The Sussex force has one of the most advanced computer systems in the country, but it does not have the programs needed for cross-referencing the information from the 300 telephone calls a day which it is receiving.

Details are being stored on filing cards in metal trays. A police spokesman said yesterday: "We have got a paper mountain of information in there but we have not got the software package and program that will run this sort of incident."

The police yesterday rejected suggestions that their inquiries are faltering. Det Chief Insp Peter Whitehouse, who is heading the investigation, praised the cooperation of the press, the public and other police forces. "I am absolutely confident that we are going to catch them. I am convinced that somewhere in the system is information which is going to lead us to these three men," he said.

Criticism that failure to use computers to collate information is a considerable flaw in police handling of big incidents was made recently in a report by the Chief Inspector of Constabulary into the West Yorkshire police's handling of the "Yorkshire Ripper" case.

By David Nicholson-Lord

Although there have been a number of initiatives designed to speed up the use of computers, the only active use in cases like that in Brighton has been in a pilot study carried out in Essex. Known as Major Incident Room Index and Action Management (Miriam), it is aimed at the sort of incident now being handled in Brighton.

Mr Whitehouse said that although computerization of the inquiry had been considered, "with about 2,500 telephone messages logged... it is going to take an awful lot of time to put them on the computer."

The police said that even if a computer retrieval system were available, it would have to be run in tandem with the present manual system.

The Home Office is monitoring the progress of the Brighton inquiry, which is believed to be the biggest in the Sussex force's history. Fifty officers on the case have followed up 900 of the calls so far received, referred another 100 to other forces and discarded about 1,500.

The police yesterday made a new appeal to two men aged between 50 and 60 seen talking to the assaulted boy and his twin brother shortly before he was abducted 12 days ago. The men, who are thought to live locally, are being asked to come forward as material witnesses.

one of the attackers but was terrified to come forward, are being sent to police forces in the north of England.

The fact that the man has not come forward, despite repeated appeals, has led officers in charge of the investigation to conclude that he may have been a hoaxer.

Interpol have so far failed to identify a brown car with German number plates seen near where the boy was kidnapped.

A couple heard "screams of fear" from the open ground pinpointed as the likely scene of the attack on the boy but did not notify police until four days later, it was disclosed yesterday.

The couple, who have declined to be named, live next to Beacon Hill, the area of open downland used by joggers and horse riders, and where a tea-shirt thought to belong to the boy was spotted.

The police said that they heard the screams at about 9.30pm on the evening of the attack. The wife looked out of a window and saw several people and a child walking along a footpath further up the hill.

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, has asked for a report from the Metropolitan Police on the activities of the Paedophile Information Exchange before considering demands that he ban the organisation.

The report will be separate from the files submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions which involve consideration of the prosecution of individuals.

# Surfing along on the crest of a wave



Making waves: A competitor in the biggest surfing event in Europe, the Foster's Draught EuroPro, which began at Fistral Beach, Newquay, Cornwall, on Tuesday, goes through his paces. Forty-eight leading international professionals are competing in the world-class event for \$20,000 (£13,330) prize money. The contest, which ends on Sunday, was won last year by Richard Cram, from Australia. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

# Holidays in hotels most popular with children

The ideal holiday for children is a "push" hotel abroad where they can stay up late, according to a survey conducted by MORI for the travel firm, Thomas Cook, published yesterday.

It finds that children no longer want the traditional holiday in a hotel with swimming in a pool a close second. Sun bathing and shopping were considered the most boring activities.

Parents were considered vital ingredients of a good holiday by 77 per cent of the youngsters. A boy aged eight said: "My dad's different... he mucks about and doesn't get as cross and if he does he just sort of taps you."

The children's ideas of holiday fun were simple. Top of the list was staying up late, with swimming in a pool a close second. Sun bathing and shopping were considered the most boring activities.

Parents were considered vital ingredients of a good holiday by 77 per cent of the youngsters. A boy aged eight said: "My dad's different... he mucks about and doesn't get as cross and if he does he just sort of taps you."

Perhaps its time parents questioned the time-honoured theory that young children are not "ready" for a holiday abroad, and are happier with what they know, Thomas Cooks marketing director, Mr Andrew Barrett, said.

# Shoplifters' treatment defended

Rejecting a suggestion that alleged shoplifters needed to be dealt with more humanely, a Home Office committee said yesterday that no evidence had emerged to suggest that innocent people were being convicted.

"We would accept that people who are sick, under stress or genuinely forgetful sometimes make mistakes when they are shopping," the committee's report said.

In 1981 the police issued 47,443 cautions in shoplifting cases while 75,833 offenders were found guilty of the offence in magistrates' and crown courts.

Shoplifting and Theft by Shop Staff - A review by the Home Office Standing Committee on Crime Prevention 1983. (Stationery Office, £2.75).

A Southampton crown court judge has criticized a senior Hampshire policeman for dropping a shoplifting case because he said it would cost too much.

After being told that Mr Kenneth Boothby, assistant chief constable of Hampshire would be offering no evidence against a man accused of shoplifting, Judge Ian Starforth Hill said that he would be sending Mr Boothby a strongly worded letter expressing his anger that the case had been allowed to get to crown court before being dropped.

# Open challenge by Ford

Ford is launching its first convertible European car for more than 20 years, to exploit the new popularity of open-top motoring, exemplified by the success of Volkswagen's Golf Convertible (our Motoring Correspondent writes).

The Escort Cabriolet (above) based on Europe's best-selling car, is already in production and will be shown at the Frankfurt Motor Show, opening on September 14. It will be available with 1.3, 1.6 or 105bhp fuel injection engine. Prices are yet to be decided.

# Lucan's tenant's to be sued for unpaid rent

Irish tenants of Lord Lucan who owe him or his estate an estimated £100,000 rent, unpaid since he vanished in 1974, are to be sued for the money.

Mr Michael Egan, a solicitor and agent for the Lucan family in Ireland, said that Courts, the bankers, had received permission from the High Court in London to deal with the affairs of the missing peer.

The decision means that about 1,200 householders in Castlebar, Co Mayo, may now be brought to court.

# Cancer mother dies in Australia

Mrs Sheryl Skirton, who refused treatment for cancer to save her unborn child, died in Melbourne, Australia, yesterday. Mrs Skirton, aged 35, a nurse, from Whitchurch, Bristol, gave birth to a boy weighing 2lb 10oz on an aircraft at Melbourne Airport on August 8 while on her way to see her parents.

Her husband Chris, aged 38, is expected to return to his job as a sales supervisor for a soft drinks firm.

# Legionnaire disease man dies

A man aged 23 who was a kidney transplant patient, has died from legionnaire's disease and three other cases of the disease have been confirmed among patients at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford. A fifth case is suspected.

Laboratory staff are checking the water supply at the hospital, which was opened in 1979. There was an outbreak of the disease there two years ago.

Mr John Kurtz, consultant biologist at the hospital, said he believed all the cases were isolated incidents and that the water system was not to blame. A hospital spokesman said the water supply is regularly inspected but confirmed that checks were being increased.

# Murder attempt charges fail

A man was cleared yesterday of attempting to murder three people. Christopher Allen, aged 29, unemployed, of no fixed address, was sent in custody from Clerkenwell magistrates' court for trial on three charges of possessing a knife.

No evidence was offered on charges that he attempted to murder Mr Alfredo Albano, aged 61, Mrs Phyllis Waldron, aged 62, and Mrs Gloria Linnis, aged 42, who were stabbed on London streets.

# Biggest safety campaign opens

Britain's biggest home safety campaign, costing £100,000 and funded by the Manpower Services Commission, was opened in Gloucester yesterday by Mr David Clayer, the Health Education Council's director general.

Gloucestershire has been chosen for an experiment which may lead to a national drive to reduce home accidents.

# Microcomputer shops in North

A national network of 12 high street microcomputer shops is to be set up by next spring by the Cheshire-based publishing group Europress, at the cost of £1m.

The Greater Manchester area has been chosen for the first three, which will be opened within the next two weeks.

# Students fined

Two students, Helena Cunningham, aged 21, from Leeds, and Ian Wilson, aged 23, from Glasgow, were each fined £20 by Harrogate magistrates yesterday after being convicted of obstructing the Prime Minister's car in Harrogate in May.

# Gypsy grant

City councillors have voted to give gypsies £500 to help to finance a two-day festival in October at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, where factory owners have been withholding rates in protest over illegal camping on industrial estates.

# Miner injured

Paul Lynam aged 18, a miner, of Lintby, Nottinghamshire, was critically ill with internal injuries after being trapped yesterday in a conveyor belt on an underground roadway at Babington Colliery, Nottingham.



David Claxton with his puppet Roland Rat

# Big time beckons Roland Rat

TV-am's first and only successful superstar set his master's familiar show business jiddle yesterday: Will Roland Rat quit for the big time? Mr David Claxton, the actor who introduced the rodent that pulled in the audiences who were not attracted by Anna Ford and her fellow stars, has received several offers to move his manager to other areas of the ITV network.

"There are lots of offers around and at the moment I have yet to discuss the future with TV-am," he said. "We are talking about a Roland Rat Christmas Special to be filmed in Switzerland, but we need to recruit more people to expand. I am just a one-man show at the moment," he said.

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● Encountering a comet ● Computers made human ● Hattersley on equality

BRITISH ASSOCIATION



'Work' will transform schooling

By Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent

The new subject called 'work', now being taught in schools, could completely change the nature of state schooling by pushing yet more academic education out of state schools into the independent sector, according to Professor Samuel Eggleston, head of the education department at Keele University.

Earthquakes a risk in UK geologist says

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Britain is more vulnerable to earthquakes than most scientists recognize, according to Dr R. Muir Wood, a senior geologist with Principia Mechanical, consultant engineers, of London.



Space explorer: An artist's impression (left) of the Giotto Satellite which will photograph the nucleus of Halley's Comet in 1986 and gather information on the comet's coma region and tail. Right: Mr Steve Kellock with Giotto's British component, the Johnstone plasma analyzer, for which he is experiment manager (Photograph: John Voss).

Halley's comet to be 'met' in space

By Our Science Editor

Preparations are at an advanced stage for a scientific satellite which will make a close encounter with Halley's Comet in three years' time.

Describing the special preparations for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, Dr A. D. Johnston, of the Mullard Space Science Laboratory of University College, London, said that there were two separate tails pointing in slightly different directions.

The human face of talking computers

Talking computers will soon have human faces as well as human speech. The stimulus comes from medical research to help people with impaired speech and hearing.

to learn a computer dialect might even influence British industry by encouraging the learning of a second language.

Deep crisis for Dutch spending

By Our Technology Correspondent

The Dutch welfare state, probably the most generous in the world, is in deep crisis, according to a professor of economics from Amsterdam University.

Professor Michael Ellman described Dutch experience to the association as a particular dramatic example of the more widespread "crisis of the welfare state" which was affecting many Western countries.

Holland had developed its welfare programme during the economic boom of the 1950s and 1960s, with strong support from the Christian Democrats and the labour movement.

The financial insolvency of a market economy had been abolished, and such sudden shocks as strikes or unemployment had no adverse effect on income, he said.

Only 6 per cent of the population lived in poverty in 1979, according to the Dutch definition, compared with Britain's 20 per cent.

Dutch unemployment was soaring, it had overtaken the British level in April.

The second tail, the one which intrigues astronomers most, was formed by escaping gas. The gas molecules apparently left the surface of the comet at much higher velocities than the dust particles and were, therefore, scarcely affected by the radiation pressure which influenced the shape of the dust particles. It appeared as if the tails were being blown away from the comet by a wind from the sun with a speed of more than 500 km a second.

The "solar wind" was a plasma, an electrical gas. All the particles in it were electrically charged, half of them with a positive charge, and half with a negative charge. The comet's gas was also a plasma.

The scientists wanted to measure what happened when two very different plasmas, the solar wind and cometary gas, met. Dr Johnston said.

Many chemical reactions were believed to take place, some under the influence of sunlight to make the cometary gas into a complex mixture. But, since the cometary mixture was not "hot", it could contain material in the solid state, one of Giotto's tasks was to try to find the greatest molecules from which the atoms and molecules have come.

Hattersley formula for equality

By Clive Cookson Technology Correspondent

Mr Roy Hattersley elaborated yesterday on what is becoming the favourite theme of his campaign for the Labour Party, leadership - equality of outcome rather than equality of opportunity.

Speaking to the education section on "Challenge of the Eighties: the Pursuit of Equality", Mr Hattersley called for a campaign on all fronts to "compensate the underprivileged and to limit the ability of the rich and powerful to exploit their riches and power".

He attacked the idea that "something called equality of opportunity could be created without equality itself. People who believed that 'education' was a race which was inevitably won by the strong".

Belief in equality of opportunity is expressed most often in education, Mr Hattersley said. It "has been developed into the myth that education can in itself be an instrument of liberation".

"That is tragically untrue," he continued. "Without changes in the structure of society, and



Mr Hattersley said the distribution of wealth education can do little or nothing to alter our class pattern.

There must be action to change the social factors giving the middle classes a head start, Mr Hattersley said. "Without attempting to organize equality of outcome there can be no social mobility."

Mr Hattersley claimed that a practical programme for achieving equality of outcome would not be difficult to construct.

New hormones that could trigger a revolution

By Clive Cookson

Genetic engineering will have a revolutionary impact within a few years on a wide range of human activities - from breeding new strains of wheat to producing microbes to help to extract the two thirds of the world's crude oil reserves that cannot be recovered with present technology.

Dr Gordon Chadwick, medical adviser to the biotechnology company, New Laboratories, said: "We stand on the threshold of a laboratory revolution."

He was speaking particularly of new hormones produced by genetic engineering. "New hormones have already produced large quantities of insulin, human growth hormone, human insulin and growth hormone. But Dr Chadwick

was most excited by the prospect of making some of the recently discovered brain hormones in culture of genetically engineered bacteria or animal cells.

A molecule called pancreatic cholera could be a powerful pain reliever. It can pass through the blood-brain barrier and is therefore biologically active when injected into the brain.

"This molecule has had its gene sequence analyzed and cloned in bacteria, and work is under way to produce this in sufficiently large quantities to put into clinical trials," Dr Chadwick said. Other brain hormones may be able to alleviate depression and even overcome learning or memory problems.

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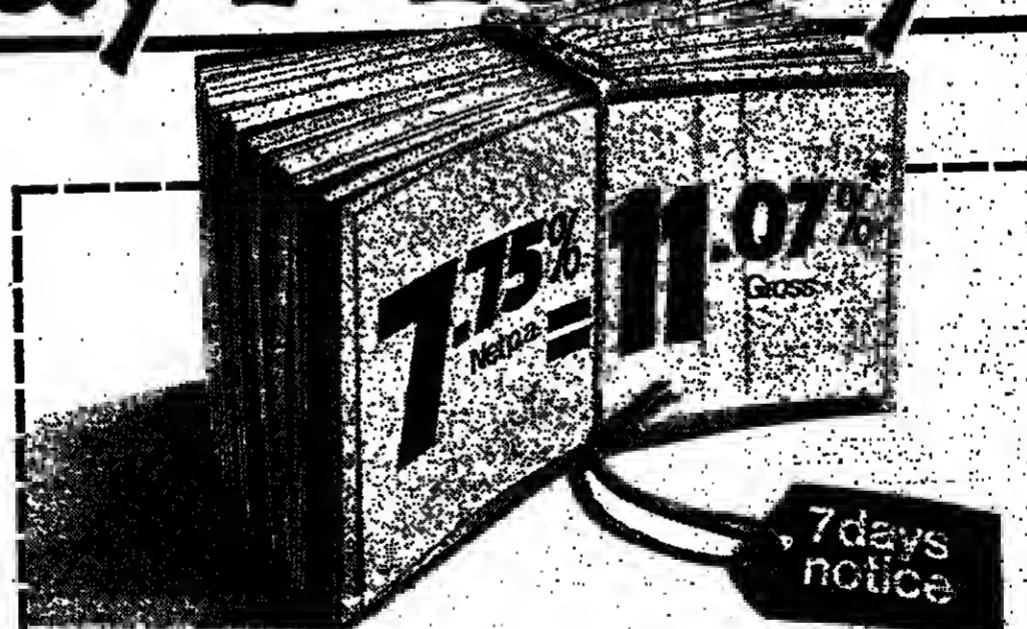
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مكتبة الامن الاصل

Widow flies in for funeral

Aquino assassination inquiry ordered

Manila (Reuter) - President Marcos of the Philippines last night announced that a special commission would investigate the murder of Benigno Aquino.



Face in the crowd: Mrs Aquino arriving in Manila last night.

Mr Aquino was shot dead at the airport as he arrived from three years of self-imposed exile on Sunday.

The President's announcement came as the opposition leader's widow, Corason, arrived from the United States with her son and four daughters for his funeral.

"This is a sad day for me, I will say more after seeing my husband", she said at the airport. The family, some of them in tears, were welcomed by relatives and friends and were surrounded by security guards as they left the airport.

The presidential statement said the Government was offering a reward of about £30,000 for information leading to the arrest of the killer or killers. The special commission would have powers "for a free, unlimited and exhaustive investigation into all aspects of the tragedy".

No time was given for the start of the inquiry. Demands for an independent inquiry have come from the opposition in Parliament, notably from Mr Francisco Tatad, an independent opposition figure and President Marcos's Information Minister for 10 years.

The palace statement said the commission, headed by chief justice Enrique Fernandez and comprising four other Supreme Court judges, would be empowered to call witnesses and other evidence.

Shortly before the statement was issued, the Manila police chief, Major-General Prospero Olivas, said investigations had produced no clues to the identity of the alleged assassin.

shot dead at the airport by security men. He said police had been unable to trace ownership of the man's .357 magnum and it would take time to identify his fingerprints if he has a criminal record.

A US congressman said yesterday that President Reagan should not decide whether to go ahead with his planned trip to the Philippines until further information was available on the murder.

Mr Stephen Solarz, chairman of the House of Representatives subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific affairs, interrupted a tour of South-East Asia to return to Manila and express condolences to the widow and family of Mr Aquino, a personal friend.

Asked about a White House statement that Washington was not considering cancelling Mr Reagan's November visit because of the killing, he said: "It would be premature to make any final decision at this time until further information is made available on the murder."

In Tokyo, the Japanese journalist who claims Philippines security men shot Mr Aquino, said he may ask Colonel Gaddafi of Libya to help to establish his case.

Although the alleged report placed prime responsibility for the conduct of Argentina's diplomacy on the junta, it severely criticized Senator Costa Mendez for being short-sighted and rigid.

He was informed of the junta's intention to use force as an option for gaining control of the Falklands when he was appointed in December 1981.

He was told on March 23, 1982, 10 days in advance, that an invasion was going ahead, and he agreed to the plan on condition that Argentina's seizure of the islands should be used as the basis for a subsequent negotiated settlement with Britain.

Whitehall studying 'junta for trial' claim

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Western diplomats were last night studying a report that leading members of the Argentine Government during last year's Falklands conflict are likely to face trial.

The report, in the Buenos Aires Eronist newspaper La Voz, said this was the main recommendation of an official military inquiry set up after the Argentine defeat.

The first reaction of diplomats in Buenos Aires was to accept the report as genuine, but there was no confirmation last night in Whitehall, whose only contact with the Buenos Aires government is through a small interests section in the Swiss Embassy.

Not only General Leopoldo Galtieri and the other two members of the military junta, but also Senator Nicanor Costa Mendez, the former Foreign Minister, and General Mario Benjamin Menendez, who was appointed governor of the Falklands after the Argentine invasion, have been recommended for trial by the inquiry, according to the newspaper.

BUENOS AIRES: Military sources said recently that the inquiry had concluded that Argentina handled the conflict badly from the start to finish (Reuter reports).

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He was informed of the junta's intention to use force as an option for gaining control of the Falklands when he was appointed in December 1981.

He was told on March 23, 1982, 10 days in advance, that an invasion was going ahead, and he agreed to the plan on condition that Argentina's seizure of the islands should be used as the basis for a subsequent negotiated settlement with Britain.

He did not make the junta understand that Britain might well refuse to negotiate when faced with the completed military action.

It also blamed Senor Costa Mendez for failing to see that the United States would side with Britain in the conflict and for being too rigid in his interpretation of Argentine sovereignty in negotiations to try to avert a military clash with Britain.

Man in the news Britain to lose a Senate friend

From Nicholas Ashford Washington



Mr Tower: Pinstripe suits and British cigarettes

The decision by Senator John Tower (Republican, Texas) not to seek reelection next year not only removes from the Senate an outspoken conservative and an ardent campaigner for increased military spending, but will also deprive Britain of one of its leading champions in the US Congress.

During the Falklands crisis last year Senator Tower was the first prominent figure in the United States to speak up openly in support of Britain.

At a time when the US was still trying to act as a mediator between Britain and Argentina, Senator Tower reminded the Reagan Administration of its obligations towards its closest ally.

Unfortunately, American peace efforts were heavily in our favour, thanks to the influence of people like John Tower.

"Congress could have made life very difficult for us if it had

than the son of an itinerant preacher who grew up in the lumber towns of eastern Texas. He favours pinstripe suits and British-made cigarettes and attributes his "global views" to the two years he spent as a graduate student at the London School of Economics in the early 1950s when, he notes, Britain still had an empire.

Senator Tower, who took over Lyndon Johnson's seat in the Senate 22 years ago, is the second most senior Republican in the Upper House and chairman of the Senate's key armed services committee. In this latter capacity he has fought hard to push through President Reagan's defence programme, particularly the controversial MX missile.

His decision not to stand again next year came as a surprise, although it has been noted that he faced a particularly tough fight in a state which by tradition is overwhelmingly Democratic.

Senator Tower, who is 57, looks more like an Englishman

Kohl firm despite poll on missiles

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Dr Helmut Kohl yesterday forcefully restated his Government's commitment to deploy new Nato missiles in West Germany and to stick to the planned timetable.

His statements, made in an interview with the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, were published the day after the results of a poll which showed that three quarters of German people are opposed to the new missiles being deployed even if there is no agreement at the Geneva arms talks by the autumn.

The Chancellor said no one could doubt Bonn's determination to install missiles if there was no tangible result in Geneva by November.

"Even a conceivable interim agreement, which I still think is possible - and we will do everything to render our contribution - does not make a weapons mix dispensable", he added, underlining his firm rejection of a waiver of the Pershing 2 missiles.

He had reason to believe in "intensive negotiations" in the next round, and called on the Soviet Union to take the necessary steps now, including the dropping of the demand to include British and French missiles. It was only, he said, the "walk in the woods"

compromise - a suggestion that went down badly with the Americans. His tough stand is intended to be the German reply to the Greek call for a delay of six months in the timetable for deployment. But the Chancellor must also be alarmed by the force of anti-nuclear sentiment in his own country, which was strikingly shown by a poll commissioned by the ZDF television channel in July.

This showed that 75.5 per cent of all West Germans are in favour of further negotiations and against deployment - an increase over the 62 per cent who opposed the missiles in an earlier poll. Even 61 per cent of Christian Democrats and 71 per cent of Free Democrats, whose parties constitute the Government, shared this view.

The Christian Democratic Union quickly questioned these results, saying the question was missing whether the West Germans wanted to go on being threatened by the Soviet SS20 missiles.

Meanwhile, a polling agency has confirmed that the US information agency has commissioned a poll in West Germany to find out whether Dr Kohl can push through the deployment issue at home.

Chemical weapons hope dashed

From Alan McGregor Geneva

High hopes for an early treaty prohibiting chemical weapons have been dashed as the 40-nation United Nations Disarmament Committee concludes its 1983 session.

The American assessment is one of meagre and disappointing results, with "an effective ban not much closer than it was a year ago".

While asserting that United States Congressional approval for the binary weapons production programme "kills those talks", the Russians are simultaneously urging much more intensive negotiations when the committee begins its 1984 session in early February.

The Russians contend that the Americans are excessively rigid on the crucial issue of verification, but the Russians have been very slow to follow up their acceptance last year of the concept of on-site inspection by clarifying what they have in mind.

Their intention of leaving many points to be settled at a later stage is anathema to the United States which wants verification procedure details clear cut.

Crucial day for Malta at Madrid conference

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Intensive contacts went on yesterday among delegations to the 35-nation European Security Review conference before today's crucial meeting set by Spain for Malta to drop its stubborn stand which has held up a concluding meeting at foreign ministers level early next month.

All the nations, except Malta, reached agreement on a final document on East-West relations on July 15. Malta has held out for greater attention to

Swiss Army chooses a German tank

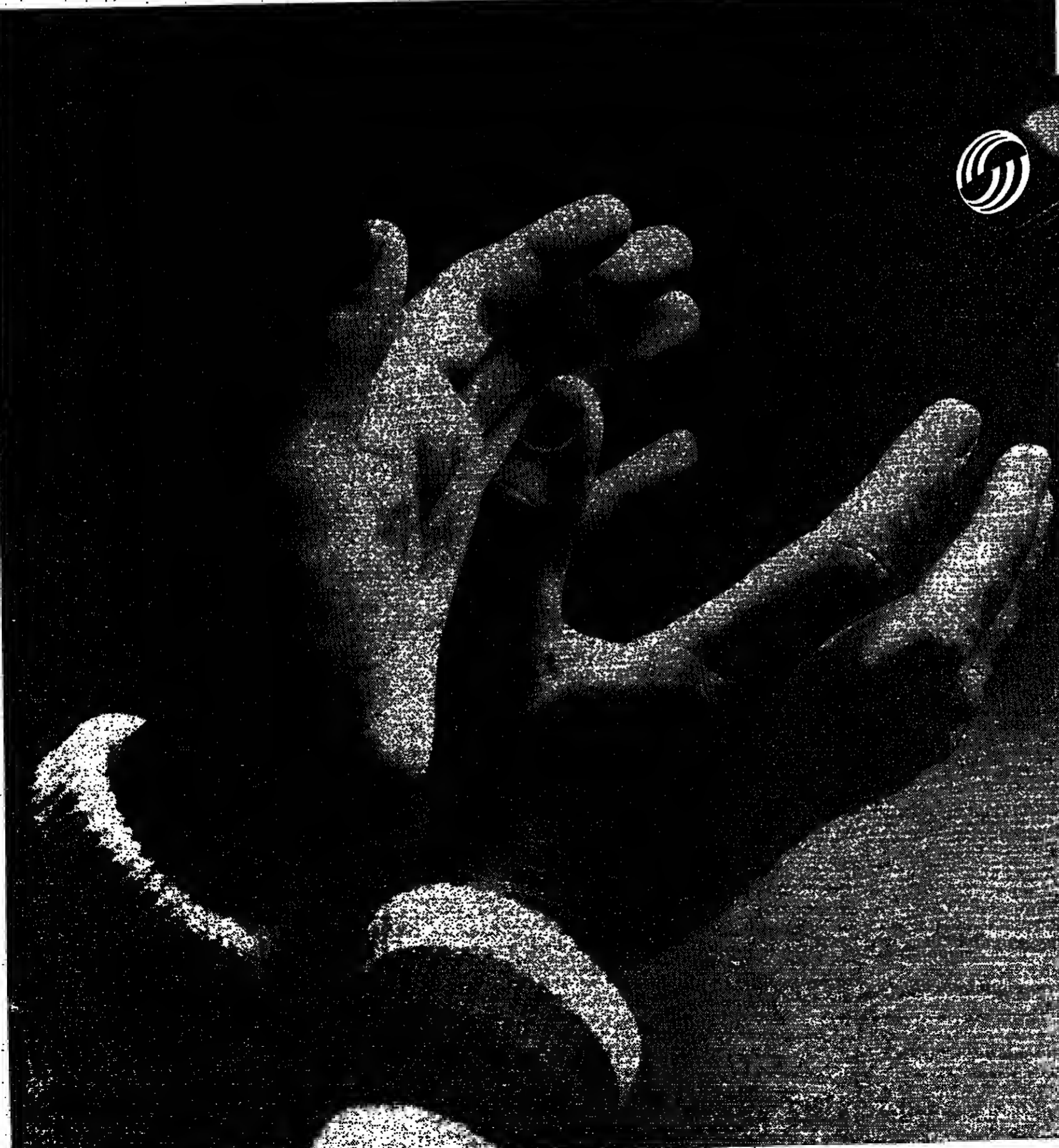
From Our Correspondent, Geneva

The Swiss Army's new combat tank is to be the West German Leopard 2. Not the American M1 Abrams. This decision was approved yesterday by the Swiss Cabinet.

2,500m Swiss franc (£796m) credit is being opened for a first series of 210, of which 35 will be imported direct from the manufacturers, Kraus Maffei, Munich and 175 will be constructed under licence in Switzerland.

This initial sum will also cover servicing and maintenance equipment for a further 210 tanks, built under licence. Deliveries will be spaced over 15 years.

Technical evaluation of the two tanks started more than two years ago, with two models of each under test. The arrangement for manufacture under licence will give the West German tank a price advantage. The Leopard 2 was also judged to be more "technically mature".



One opportunity that must not slip through Britain's fingers.

Twenty-five years ago, Britain's civil aircraft industry led the world with programmes like the Comet and the Viscount.

The all-new Airbus A320, the world's most advanced jetliner, will give British industry the opportunity to demonstrate itself a leader once again.

The remarkable A320, on which Britain will stake its aerospace future, is currently under the microscope of many key airlines around the world. Alongside it are some American derivatives whose basic technology stretches back to the early sixties.

At least 6000 British high-tech workers conscious of their future consider this unequal comparison is hardly fair competition.



# Turkish poll restricted to three parties at end of approval deadline

From Rasit Gardlik, Ankara

Only three parties will be able to contest the Turkish elections, set for November 6, because no others were able to meet the requirements of having by yesterday at least 30 approved founders and being organized in at least 34 of the 67 provinces.

The parties which qualified are the right-centre National List Democracy Party, headed by Mr Turgut Sunalp, a former General, and reputed to be enjoying the full backing of the ruling military; the conservative Motherland Party of former Deputy Prime Minister and economy chief Mr Turgut Ozal; and the Populist Party, which claims to represent the social democrats, headed by Mr Necdet Calp, a former provincial governor.

The rest of the 14 parties established since last May to replace ones banned after the army coup in September 1980, were excluded. Among the excluded are the conservative Right Way Party and the social democrat Sodep. Both were left short of the required number of founders because of vetoes by the ruling National Security Council last Friday on the alternative names they had proposed, although they had easily organized in all the provinces.

Seen by the electorate as the true inheritors of the pre-coup Justice Party and the Republican People's Party, the Right Way and Sodep had been confidently claiming the support of 10 and 9 million voters respectively, which together nearly equals the total of 19.6 million Turks declared eligible to vote.

The latest vetoes elicited strong protests from the former Sodep leader, Mr Erdal Inonu and the Right Way chairman, Mr Yildirim Avcı, but the poll and the form of government to follow would be anything but democratic.

The protest has prompted an investigation - which may lead to a prosecution - against Mr Inonu, son of Ismet Inonu the soldier and statesman. The three parties allowed to enter the poll will compete for some 400 seats in a single-chamber Grand National Assembly to be elected for a five-year term. But candidates will also have to run the gauntlet of vetoes by the National Security Council. Parties will have to secure at least 10 per cent of the votes cast to be represented in Parliament.

The National Security Council and the Quasi-parliamentary Consultative Assembly will be

disbanded upon the inauguration of parliament, but President Kenan Evren, vested with sweeping powers by the new constitution adopted last November, will still have a dominant position above it for six more years.

The main contest is expected to be between the Nationalist Democracy Party, on whose ticket Mr Bulend Ulsu, the Prime Minister, and four ministers will run as independent candidates, and the Motherland Party, which is credited with rapidly-growing support.

Voting is compulsory, on pain of heavy fines. President Evren has been constantly warning people against "the instructions of former politicians for them to cast blank votes".

The leader of the two main excluded parties have reacted calmly. Yesterday Mr Cezmi Kartay, the Sodep chairman, said exclusion of his party would not mean the cessation of its activities. A spokesman for the Right Way said a statement would be issued after a meeting of party executives.

Political observers expect the leading figures of both parties to run as independent candidates.

# Iran settles debt to US bank

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Iran has paid \$419.5 (£280m) it owed to the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Treasury Department announced here.

It is the biggest debt settlement that Iran has made to American banks under the January 1981 agreement for the release of 52 American hostages held in Iran for 444 days.

As part of the hostages agreement, \$1,418m was put in a Bank of England escrow

account to cover settlements of claims of United States banks for loans to the pre-revolutionary Government of the Shah.

Iran has also settled claims of 19 other American commercial banks.

The 20 settlements have drawn down the escrow account by about \$895.9m.

In return for the latest payment, the federally supported Export-Import Bank has withdrawn claims pending at an

Iran-US claims tribunal, which was established under the hostages agreement.

The Treasury announcement said that the Export-Import Bank would receive \$419.5m in payment on its non-syndicated debt claims against Iran.

The announcement also said that other US banks have been meeting Bank Markazi representatives in London and were in the process of negotiating their respective claims



Dressed to kill: Lieutenant-General Abdul-Halim Abu Ghazala, the Egyptian Defence Minister, left, and US Lieutenant-General Robert Kingdon reviewing joint manoeuvres yesterday in the Western Desert.

# Nightmare stops an airliner

Ankara (AFP) - A West German passenger forced a Turkish airliner to return to Istanbul shortly after take-off on Tuesday when he apparently awoke from a nap and mistook a nightmare for reality, the newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* reported.

Herr Wolfgang Stroppe, from Munich, leapt out of his seat, shouting there was a bomb on the aircraft, which returned to Yesilkoy airport.

A search of the suitcase to which Herr Stroppe pointed revealed not a bomb but a bottle of raki, a potent local liquor. He said he had fallen asleep before take-off and dreamt that a bomb was hidden in the suitcase and woke up shouting in terror.

He was arrested and an investigation has been opened by the authorities.

# Top man's surrender blow to Solidarity

Warsaw (Reuter, AP) - The Polish Authorities yesterday questioned - Mr Wislasylaw Hardek, a leading figure in the Solidarity underground whose decision to surrender to police was the biggest setback yet to the banned trade union.

His appearance on state television on Tuesday night, reading a statement renouncing further underground activity as pointless, raised questions about the future of the struggle by activists in hiding to promote the ideals of the movement.

It was clearly a blow to opposition morale and followed a week response to call for a go-slow as part of protests marking the third anniversary of the strikes and agreements that led to the birth of the union in 1980.

Official sources in Cracow,

# Chad says rebels are advancing

Nijmegen (Reuter) - Two columns of rebels backed by Libyan armour in northern Chad are advancing towards two government outposts, the Chad Information Minister, Mr Soumnia Mahamat, said yesterday.

He said the columns, each including up to 1,500 Libyan troops and around 100 Soviet-built T62 and T72 tanks, were moving along two roads which lead to the capital through the semi-desert region. There had been no fighting yet, he said.

The Western column was moving on Koro-Toro, which lies 125 miles north of Sahel, government garrison at Sahel, where an estimated 100 French paratroopers are stationed.

The eastern column was heading for Oum Chalouba, 190 miles south-east of the oasis town of Faya-Largeau which the rebels captured two weeks ago and turned into a major base.

Koro-Toro is deserted but the government still has troops at Oum Chalouba, although Western diplomatic sources here say they believe it is indefensible.

Life for French troops at Sahel is so tough they will have to be rotated, to prevent mental problems, an Italian journalist says.

Signor Lucio Lani of the Milan Newspaper *Il Giornale*, the only journalist so far to reach Sahel, said the outpost consists of 15 mud houses clustered around a single well.

● PARIS: France wants a peaceful settlement to the crisis but this implies a position of strength in the field, our government spokesman, M Max Gallo, said here (AFP reports). He added that above all Chad was an African affair and it was up to the Africans to resolve it, perhaps within the Organization of African Unity.

● NAIROBI: M Maurice Fauré, chairman of the French National Assembly's foreign affairs committee, arrived in Addis Ababa with a message from president Mitterrand on the crisis for Colonel Mengistu Haile-Mariam, the Ethiopian leader and current OAU chairman (AFP reports).

● BOSTON: A US lawyer said here that the accused Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie worked for the intelligence services of several countries apart from the United States after the Second World War (Reuter reports). Mr John Loftis, who prosecuted Nazis for the US Justice Department refused to identify them.

● Gypsies gassed: A retired West German medical director, Helmut Ruchel, aged 65, has been charged with being an accessory to the murder of 75,000 Czech Jews who were deported between March 1942 and 1944. They are due to stand trial in October.

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# BAOR men accused of armed robbery

Bonn - Three soldiers from the First Battalion of the British Guards are being held in British military custody in Munster after being arrested by German police on charges of armed robbery. (Michael Binyon writes).

The three men, whose names have not been given, are alleged to have raided a petrol station on June 30 using British Army Sterling sub-machine guns, and stolen cigarettes, sweets and DM 2,000 (£500) in cash. They were said to have been caught after fleeing in a car which then crashed.

A spokesman for the British Army of the Rhine said a military investigation was now complete, and the Army was waiting to see whether the West German authorities would waive their jurisdiction.

# Sinatra sues

Las Vegas (Reuter) - Frank Sinatra is seeking \$10m (£6.6m) damages from a nightclub here called "Sinatras", alleging that the owners, the brothers Duane, Dennis and Paul Sinatra, misappropriated his name and were trying to mislead the public. The singer has a new contract to perform exclusively at a hotel and casino three blocks away.

# Kidnapped

Naputo (Reuter) - Two Soviet technicians have been killed and 24 kidnapped in Mozambique in the continuing harassment of foreign aid specialists by opponents of the Machal Government. A number of Mozambicans were also seized in the raid on a tantalite mine at Morras. Soviet sources said.

# Mafia dug in

Rome (Reuter) - It will be the year 2000 before the Mafia is defeated, Signor Emanuele De Francesco, the special commissioner charged with fighting the criminal network, said in an interview. The Mafia mentality remained "deeply entrenched and had to be tackled in schools, but this would take time."

# Nevis in step

Baseterre (Reuter) - The coalition Government of the St Kitts-Nevis Prime Minister, Mr Kennedy Simmonds, made a clean sweep of all five seats in a new legislative assembly to handle affairs on the smaller island of Nevis after the twin-island state gains independence on September 19.

# A-waste block

Brussels (Reuter) - Belgium and Switzerland have suspended indefinitely the disposal of 3,700 tonnes of radioactive waste in the Atlantic because of a dumping boycott by British seamen. The British company under contract cannot raise a crew.

# Shagari victory

Lagos (AFP) - President Shagari's National Party of Nigeria has won 55 of the 85 federal Senate seats contested last Saturday. Voting for the remaining 11 seats was put off because of violence or electoral irregularities.

# Queen foiled

Johannesburg - Judgment in an application to the Swaziland High Court by Queen Dzeliwe to make her dismissal as Queen Regent illegal was withheld after a proclamation that royal affairs were beyond the prerogative of the courts.

# Children killed

Cologne (Reuter) - Eight people, including five children, died and five others were injured in a three-car crash near Cologne on Tuesday night. A tyre on one of the vehicles burst.

# Nepal epidemic

Katmandu (AP) - Twenty-four more people have died of gastro-enteritis in Nepal, bringing the number of deaths from the disease to 95 in the past two weeks. Doctors have been sent to affected areas to deal with the epidemic, which is spreading.

# School falls

Taipei (Reuter) - Twenty-two students were killed and 63 injured when a school at Feng Yuan, 100 miles south of Taipei, collapsed during opening ceremonies for the new term. Rescue workers feared more bodies might be found.

# Drugs arrest

Amsterdam (AFP) - Police arrested a 31-year-old Londoner, identified only by his initials "LRS", in connection with a narcotics haul in central Amsterdam earlier this week in which 770 lb of hashish were seized.

# Catalan JR

Barcelona (AD) - From mid-September the American television series *Dallas* is to be shown throughout Catalonia dubbed in Catalan. Spaniards who do not speak this regional language will be out of luck.

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دکتر امتن الاصل

# Generals out of touch as Chile looks to the post-Pinochet era

Front Florencia Varas, Santiago

A ring of unreality pervaded the firm speeches by armed forces chiefs and the official threats against "forces of chaos" which marked this week's tenth anniversary of General Augusto Pinochet's seizure of power in Chile.

General Pinochet and his supporters still occupy the leadership, but Chile itself has undoubtedly entered the post-Pinochet era, with political debate centring on what will happen when the President is replaced by a democratically elected leader. Though the President seems not to realize what is happening, the facts are piling up.

In a country that lives an intense political life, where already new candidates for the presidency are presenting themselves and new governmental programmes are being discussed, General Pinochet has been forced to accept what previously, for him, was always unacceptable. When he addresses the country, it seems as if he is talking about a country that no longer exists.

One of his phrases that "not one single leaf in Chile moves without his knowledge" has lost all validity. Today, the leaves move by themselves, misled by a wind that does not wait for the boss's permission.

Chile in 1983 is not the country that spoke with whippers under the reign of terror of one man and his security forces. The people have lost much of their fear, and are calling in loud voices for his resignation.

When several trade unions called in May for a protest against the military regime, the noise of the pots and pans banging in the early evenings was timid under the slogan "Democracy Today", the protest continued in June and July, and the Government felt obliged to

impose a curfew starting at 8pm on the evening of the protest. Earlier this month, General Pinochet issued a warning that the Government would not tolerate any more protests, and threatened to occupy Santiago with 18,000 troops, in spite of this, protests continued for two days, leaving 26 dead and 1,500 arrested.

Now, with less than a month before the fifth protest, the President has been forced to take a step backwards and declare that the protest will be accepted as long as they are peaceful.

At the same time, the arrival of Senator Sergio Onofre Jarpa, former Ambassador in Buenos Aires, as the new minister of the interior shows.

President Pinochet's insecurity over confronting the demands of the opposition, who seek his immediate resignation, has had to use a right-wing politician like Senator Onofre Jarpa to calm the spirits and perhaps find a dialogue with the only part of the opposition that could be secured - the Christian Democrats.

These statements do not necessarily signify that the military Government has changed its character. Rather than these are decisions forced by circumstances and useful for courting the Christian Democrats, who a few weeks ago organized a coalition of various parties, called the "Democratic Alliance", with representatives from the right and the Radicals.

Their programme is based on a dialogue with the Government, with prior condition that General Pinochet resigns.

Within the Christian Democrats, however, several of the right-wing leaders now seem willing to participate in the dialogue offered by Senator Onofre Jarpa.

The left-wing forces - which in the next few days are to launch a democratic and popular government programme - are demanding not only General Pinochet's exit from office, but that the entire junta resign in favour of a transitional government under the President of the Supreme Court.



General Pinochet: Forced to make concessions.

In his first 10 days as Minister of the Interior, Senator Onofre Jarpa has had to bury several of the dogmas by which General Pinochet has governed.

The new minister has recognized the legality of the non-violent protest, stating even that for the next protest - expected on the tenth anniversary celebration of the military regime - he would not call out the armed forces, but would leave the consequences to those who organize it.

He has also declared that legalization of the new formation of political parties next year will be studied, as well as an election of Congress before the fixed date of 1989.

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They led the field in dioxin detection and control in the 1960s. When its chief toxicologist found that dioxin had "a tremendous potential for producing (the skeletal complaints) characteristic of systemic 'liver toxicity' it reduced dioxin levels in its herbicide 2,4,5-T, an ingredient of agent orange, and urged other firms, Monsanto and Diamond Shamrock, to follow suit.

The judge in the agent orange case says they did not act on Dow's warning.

But Dow failed to tell the Government what it knew about dioxin for almost five years. It evidently thought manufacturers should set their own good housekeeping standards rather than have them imposed by law.

As far as s-know nobody had ever been killed by dioxin, but it is difficult to determine how dangerous it is.

"For many species dioxin is one of the most toxic substances known, and it has been shown that it acts as a tumour promoter. But for certain types of dioxin, and for humans, it is much less toxic," a toxicologist said. This accords with research showing that different creatures are affected by dioxin in different ways.

Some researchers think dioxin could cause cancer, nerve damage and erosion of the body's natural defences, but the evidence is disputed. The only effect of dioxin established in humans is that it causes chloracne, which sometimes disfigures and sometimes fades rapidly.

Fear of dioxin could grow out of proportion to the hazard, but the EPA thinks that, while reactions are sometimes hysterical, public concern is reasonable. It says experts have been wrong before, as in the case of thalidomide. Dioxin is in the dock.

# Agent orange makers sued Vietnam veterans battle in court

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

In what promises to be a cause célèbre, 26,000 ex-servicemen are suing the makers of agent orange, the defoliant sprayed on jungles by the Americans during the Vietnam War to deny cover to their enemies. The men claim they were harmed by handling it.

The herbicide contained dioxin, itself the focus of controversy. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regards dioxin as highly toxic, and the minutest traces have been shown to cause cancer in some animals.

Nobody can say how dangerous it is to man, but fear of its supposed insidious effects is widespread. For example, the Government is buying the town of Times Beach, Missouri, paying \$21m to relocate the population of 2,400, after an examination revealed dioxin in the soil.

In other parts of the country people have been alarmed by the discovery that dioxin in chemical plant waste has been carelessly and illegally dumped near their homes.

In the Vietnam veterans' case, expected to start next year, the leading defendant is the Dow Chemical Company of Michigan, the largest supplier of agent orange. It is now trying to improve an image stained by the dioxin scare.

The company believes it is being made a scapegoat because of the public's emotional response to the use of agent orange, and napalm, another Dow product made notorious in Vietnam.

Dow and the EPA have long been glaring at each other over the dioxin issue. Dow is an old and proud company and has always resisted being stampeaded by studies it believes to be scientifically unsound, to some the company looks arrogant.

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# Archbishop of Prague attacks state

Vienna (Reuters) - The head of the Roman Catholic Church in Czechoslovakia has accused the Communist authorities of discriminating against believers and restricting religious freedom and activity, according to the Austrian Catholic news agency Kathpress.

# Strike hits main Tamil city in Sri Lanka

From Our Correspondent Colombo

Residents of Jaffna, the administrative capital of the Tamil area of Sri Lanka, yesterday held a general strike with all schools, offices, shops and workplaces closed and all road transport stopped.

It marked the killing a month ago of 52 Tamil prisoners in a Colombo jail by Sinhalese prison guards. The killings took place in two incidents on July 25 and July 27.

In Colombo a Government spokesman said no one had claimed responsibility for calling the strike.

The curfew was reduced from nine hours to five hours from yesterday.

With about 13,000 people still in refugee camps a government spokesman said about 65 per cent of those in Colombo were stateless and would have to be the subject of discussions between the Sri Lankan and Indian Governments.



Death wish: New York rescue workers holding on to a struggling woman who had jumped into the Hudson river. She screamed: "Let me go, I want to die."

# Moi prepares for next five years

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

President Daniel arap Moi was yesterday assured of reelection for the next five years, when he presented his nomination papers from the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU) in an open-air ceremony here.

Although his reelection was a foregone conclusion - there is only one party in Kenya, and the KANU president is automatically the only candidate - thousands attended the ceremony, with tribal dancers and musicians making it a colourful occasion.

President Moi pledged to uphold the KANU manifesto, which has just been issued for the general election on September 26.

The party's pledges to work for national unity and economic progress, and emphasises the need to reduce Kenya's four per cent birth rate.

KANU's governing council, chaired by President Moi, has approved 991 candidates for the 158 elected seats in Parliament.

Four prospective candidates were rejected because they either had criminal records or were not considered to have followed KANU policies.

The elections were not due until late next year, but were brought forward by President Moi after a political crisis in which he accused unnamed ministers of disloyalty.

Port Louis (AFP) Economic problems will dominate the first weeks of the new coalition Government which has won power in the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius.

Mr Amerwood Jugnauth's administration will have to prepare a tough budget to present to Parliament and start discussions with the International Monetary Fund in an attempt to emerge from the worst economic crisis the country has known.

The Prime Ministers three-party coalition - his own Mauritian Socialist Movement (MSM), Sir Seewoosair Ramgoolam's Labour Party and Sir Gaetan Duval's Social Democratic Party - took 41 of the 60 seats for Mauritius itself, against 19 for the opposition Mauritius Militant Movement (MMM) of Mr Paul Berenger.

On the neighbouring island of Rodrigues the Rodriguan People's Organisation (ROPR), normally allied to the MMM, took both seats.

The elections took place only 14 months after a left-wing coalition of the MMM and the Mauritius Socialist Party of Mr Harish Boodhoo swept the board, ousting the Labour Party which had ruled for 20 years.

But in a dispute over policy Mr Berenger, then Finance Minister, went into opposition with most of the MMM MPs.

On Sunday 14 MSM won 28 seats, Labour nine and the Social Democrats four, but the whole coalition took only 52 per cent of the votes, leaving the MMM the strongest single party in terms of popular support.

But the MMM was effectively leaderless in Parliament, as Mr Berenger, who founded the party, its Chairman and its Secretary-General all lost their seats.

# Hongkong relations chief named by China

Peking (AFP) - China yesterday confirmed reports that the former Foreign Minister, Mr Ji Pengfei, has been named head of its Hongkong and Macao Affairs office, which is handling negotiations with Britain on the future of Hongkong.

Observers here said China clearly wanted to spell out its position on the future of the British colony to the international community as well as Britain.

Mr Ji, aged 73, was Foreign Minister from 1971 to 1974, a period which saw China admitted to the United Nations and Peking resumed contacts with many Western nations, including Britain.

He became a Deputy Premier in 1979 and State Councillor in 1982, a position which has brought him into frequent contact with visiting foreign delegations.

HONGKONG: China is developing relations with Macao to influence the negotiations on the future of Hongkong (Richard Hughes writes).

The current visit from Canton of the Governor of Guangdong province, Mr Liang Lingguang, and a delegation of six advisers, has underlined Canton's desire to forge closer political and technical links with provincial authorities across the border.

The popular Portuguese Governor of Macao, Admiral Vasco de Almeida E Costa, has warmly welcomed the delegation and accepted an invitation to visit Canton later this year, when plans for Chinese-financed reclamation of land and development of Macao's capitalist-colonial industry will be approved.

"The economic development of our province will benefit Macao just as a prosperous and stable Macao will benefit Guangdong," Mr Liang said.

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WASH 760 6.5 cu. ft.	£57.95	8.00
WASH 765 6.5 cu. ft.	£58.95	8.00
WASH 770 6.5 cu. ft.	£59.95	8.00
WASH 775 6.5 cu. ft.	£60.95	8.00
WASH 780 6.5 cu. ft.	£61.95	8.00
WASH 785 6.5 cu. ft.	£62.95	8.00
WASH 790 6.5 cu. ft.	£63.95	8.00
WASH 795 6.5 cu. ft.	£64.95	8.00
WASH 800 6.5 cu. ft.	£65.95	8.00
WASH 805 6.5 cu. ft.	£66.95	8.00
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Knight of the stars



The Times Profile: Sir Bernard Lovell at 70

shooting star. Radar enabled much fainter and even daytime meteors to be detected. Later Lovell was to write a classic textbook on the subject. In 1946, construction began of a 218ft diameter fixed parabolic telescope consisting of fields of wires. This telescope contributed much to the reemergence of radio astronomy after the Second World War.

By 1948, Lovell had plans for a 250ft fully steerable dish. After a meeting at Edinburgh University, where Lovell presented his case, Sir Edward Appleton recorded: "All present were emphatic that every effort should be made to erect such a steerable instrument in Great Britain".

carrier rocket, the first ever intercontinental ballistic missile. Nothing in the US or the USSR could match the big dish. Later Jodrell was to pull off another coup. It transmitted signals to the American Pioneer V deep space probe to release it from its carrier rocket. The big dish was the only one capable of establishing radio contact with the probe at a distance of more than 22 million miles. Afterwards, a telephone call came from Lord Nuffield: "Is that Lovell?" "Yes, my lord."

It was Jodrell's contribution to astronomy, however, that kept it at the forefront of science for decades. Radio echoes from the moon gave a new accuracy to the measurement of the solar system. The telescope did much to investigate the shape and rotation of our own Milky Way. Because radio light is scarce compared to optical light it can traverse vast distances through space. Jodrell Bank measured the positions of radio sources that were found to be the most distant and energetic objects known in the universe.

These were called quasars and are exploding galaxies half a universe away. I first met Lovell when I was a research student at Jodrell Bank. I was the junior member of the team headed by Lovell which looked for explosions on the surfaces of nearby stars - explosions similar to the solar flares seen on the sun. Over the past decade the emphasis of research at Jodrell Bank has shifted away from the use of the single big dish to explore the universe. Jodrell pioneered a technique called radio interferometry whereby two small dishes some distance apart can be electronically connected in such a way as to perform like a single large dish of a size equal to the distance between them.

Lovell's stewardship of what is perhaps Britain's most famous centre for science has not gone without criticism. A recent research team from the University of Sussex compared Jodrell Bank with three other centres of radio astronomy: Cambridge and two others in Europe. They concluded that Jodrell performed poorly in the years 1969-78. Lovell counters by arguing that this 10-year period is an unrepresentative "snapshot" and that it is misleading to compare Jodrell and Cambridge, since they are two aspects of the same national radio astronomy programme.



As seen by David Levine in 1989

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research PUBLIC OPINION

From time to time, usually several times a day, I am amused, astounded, aghast and/or outraged at the attitudes and opinions of the British public. But no study has had more amusement in my recollection than we at MORI have recently completed for Thomas Cook on the subject of children's attitudes to holidays among a cross-section of eight to twelve year olds throughout Britain. The details will be reported more fully in The Times's Friday Page tomorrow, so I'll not dwell upon them here, only to tell you my favourite bits.

Hanging is one thing I do understand that many MPs vote with their conscience in the full knowledge and respect of their constituents' opinions. I do feel, however, that it is less likely to do with conscience and more with the adroit lobbying of MPs by entrenched and well-organized opponents that Ray Whitney's Private Members' Bill fell in the last session of Parliament.

Best men What do Enoch Powell and Lord (Arnold) Weinstock of GEC have in common? Each is regarded by his peers as the most impressive of the breed. Each year MORI conducts a survey of 100 Members of Parliament and each year we ask our sample of MPs to name the most impressive back benches in the House. Each year the result is the same: Enoch Powell. Last year Chris Patten was runner-up, but Mrs Thatcher has posted him to the Northern Ireland office so he's disqualified from the competition. This year Ted Heath ran second and Francis Pym was third. Next year Michael Foot, by then no longer leader of the Opposition, will be eligible: wonder if he'll give them a run for their money?

Best men in the past, Lord Weinstock has been judged by a sizable margin to be the most outstanding industrialist by the 200 or so "Captains of Industry" we interview. This year it was a closer race, with 'Steel Man' MacGregor at 12 per cent behind Weinstock, who had 25 per cent of the vote. Sir Michael Edwards coming narrowly third at 12 per cent.

Halpers & Queen PARIS BACKS BLACK Your guide to the SEXIEST little (black) dresses EVER THE OTHER LADY DIANA Artemis Cooper edits her family love letters THE NATIONAL CARRIAGE DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS We meet the crack driver most likely to win BACK TO SCHOOL The most successful uniforms money can buy GITANE BLUES The new mood in Paris £1.50 AND CHIC AT THE PRICE

moreover... Miles Kington More lines on parking The story so far: Seamas Dalry, car-hire millionaire and would-be broadcaster, is accused of removing a double yellow line in order to park without charge. He denies the charge stoutly, as who wouldn't. Now read on. You never know it might happen to you. Counsel: Mr Dalry, the court has heard the police witness describe how the whole street was covered in a double yellow line. It has also heard you say that there was a gap in the double yellow line large enough for you to park in. Who do you honestly expect the court to believe, you or the police? Defendant: Me. Counsel: Yes, well, fair enough. Still, I think you ought to offer some explanation of this gap in the yellow line, don't you? Defendant: It strikes me that so far the court has concentrated entirely on the absence of a double yellow line beneath my car, and has assumed that because it wasn't there, it must have been removed. Judge: What other possible explanation is there? Defendant: There is another theory that has not even been considered by the court so far, and that is that the yellow line was there all the time - but was not visible. Counsel: Could you explain that? Defendant: There is nothing easier than to buy a roll of black sticky tape and to spread it out over the double yellow line in such a way that it entirely covers the yellow and looks like a bit of road, potholes and all. Counsel: So that's what you did! Judge: So that's the way it was! Defendant: Not at all. You merely asked me for another explanation and I have given you one. I neither removed the yellow line nor covered it up. However, there is yet another theory... Judge: Great stuff! I love theories. It's facts I can't handle. Defendant: I would like to call a witness. Judge: Defendants can't call witnesses, not if they're already in the witness stand. Defendant: We can in Ireland. Call William Carstairs! (After a bit of shuffling, Mr Carstairs sits on the witness stand with the defendant.) You are William Carstairs, a road-painter? Counsel: I was then. Defendant: When? Carstairs: In 1980, the year you are going to ask me about, when I painted Sears Roebuck Road and to end with a double yellow line. Defendant: Could you tell the court how you arrived at your witness stand? Carstairs: I drove there. Defendant: And where did you leave your car? Carstairs: In Sears Roebuck Road, of course. It was the only free street for miles. Defendant: Did you paint yellow lines under your car? Carstairs: No, I left it till later, so that when I moved the car - oh, blame! You're right! I forgot to go back and paint that bit. Stone me! Defendant: And there, gentlemen of the jury, you have it. The yellow lines were not removed by me because they were never there in the first place. In fact, I myself went back the next day and painted the lines in, chauntantly. Along all the yellow lines in London, that short stretch is not the property of the Metropolitan Police; it belongs to me. Judge: If I have got this straight, a man stands here accused of taking something which was never there, and even if it had been there, it would have been his own property. Who says that British justice is not the most wonderful in the world? Case dismissed! Clerk: My Lord, we have just had a message from the outside world. It's from the BBC, and they say that one of their employees, a Mr Henry Kelly, is not feeling well. They ask if the defendant is free to stand by to replace him... Defendant: Lord be praised! It's my big break! Hallelujah! (Readers who like happy endings may be interested to know that the Seamas Dalry Show will be one of the BBC's big autumn offerings.)

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No. 133) 1 Religious sonnet 2 Frequently (5) 3 Tough digger (7) 4 Great fencer (7) 5 Car company (1,1,1) 5 Play chapter (5) 6 Bore hole (5) 7 Beach gravel (7) 8 Car all (6) 14 Unfortunate (7) 9 Move slowly (6) 15 Short jacket (7) 10 Study of ideas (8) 15 Prisoner (7) 11 Day (6) 18 Early music symbol (5) 12 Venerated (6) 19 Moslem religion (5) 13 Yukon gold area (8) 21 Cone-shaped tent (5) 14 Siem core (4) 22 Rock (6) 23 Fish and chip shop (6) 24 Mimic (3) 25 Lecture hall (6) 26 Seaman's jacket (6) SOLUTION TO No 132 ACROSS: 1 Sawyer 4 Honest 7 Beef 8 Aquarium 9 Atomic 12 Wax 15 Unhappy 16 Platen 17 Gal 19 Sclerose 24 Kamazook 25 Pail 26 Savelor 27 Livery DOWN: 1 Sobs 2 Whetstone 3 Rista 4 Horni 5 Nank 6 Sush 10 Ricks 11 Atlas 12 Water rate 13 Non U 14 Bang 18 Alarm 20 Chair 21 Spel 22 Blik 23 Day



# CHILDREN'S BOOKS

## Brian Alderson hunts the golden hare Selling a million?

### Quest for the Golden Hare by Bamber Gascoigne

(Cape, £7.95)  
In August 1979 the artist Kit Williams buried an 18-carat golden hare in a park at Amphill. A month later Jonathan Cape published his book of largely pictorial clues to its discovery under the title of *Masquerade*. And in February 1982, after a million copies of the book had been sold, a gentleman who called himself Ken Thomas dug the thing up. For everyone involved - not least the tens of thousands of disappointed treasure-hunters - *Masquerade* became a 946 (or 947) day wonder. Now though, with the publication of Bamber Gascoigne's *Quest*, it is to be hoped that the whole episode can be interred a good deal deeper than ever was the hare.

One reason for saying this is the conclusiveness of *Mr Gascoigne's* story. As the only witness at the start of the performance, and as a self-confessed duffer at puzzles, he is well placed to give a full and a dispassionate account of the *Masquerade* craze and he has taxed this essentially trivial event for all its possible implications. (Not the least of these is man's infinite capacity

for self-delusion.) Moreover, he manages to rib gently both the creators of and the contestants in the craze, so that despite the apparent solidity of his 224-page analysis there is much occasion for quiet comedy.

But a stronger reason for wanting to commit the whole affair to oblivion relates to its baleful effect on the way that people think about picture books. For - as Mr Gascoigne clearly shows - Kit Williams was not really interested in creating a book where words and pictures grow into an organic unity. *Masquerade* was primarily a bound-up collection of paintings, forced into a crude relationship to each other by a remarkably banal text. In essence it was just another example of those picture books so beloved of Central European publishers and Hampstead book-buyers which follow the adage "Never mind the story, just look at the paint".

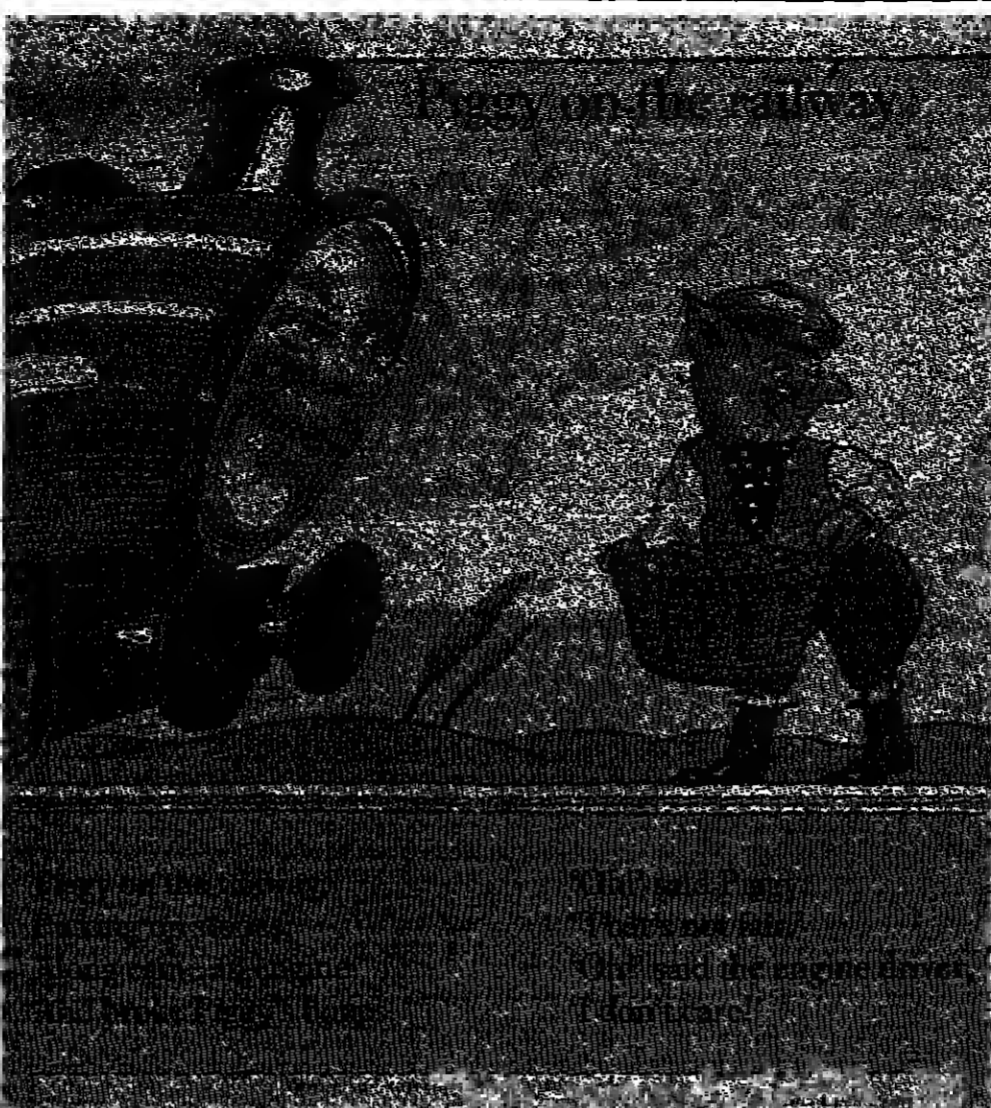
This view has dominated much picture-book publishing in recent years - although it is now being overtaken by a perverse cult of graphic crudity. ("Never mind the story, look at the social significance.") But here and there one can still pick out a few offerings that owe allegiance to happier traditions of picture-book art.

Among the present batch, I am particularly taken with Pat

the Cat by Colin and Jacqui Hawkins (*Bell & Hyman, £2.95*). At first glance this seems not just to belong to the Crudity School, but also to incorporate familiar didacticism for it is all about a fat cat on a mat plagued by a bat and a rat. What matters though is the zest with which the authors attack their simple theme and their willingness to engage in self-seizure through cheeky asides placed in conversation bubbles.

Crude too, not to say downright vulgar, is Tony Ross with his *Three Figs* (*Andersen Press, £3.95*). This is an anarchic modernization of the old tale, accompanied by raw, disorderly illustrations, but Mr Ross has recognized the comic vitality of his source in a way that fully justifies the frenzied invention of his drawings.

Such pugnacity is not present in two much more conventional treatments of traditional stories: Paul Galdone's *What's in Fox's Sack?* (*World's Work, £3.95*) and Anita Lobel's *The Straw Maid* (*MacRae, £4.95*). But Mr Galdone has long known how to pace a simple tale through the large pages of a picture book, and Mrs Lobel has long had a care for the homely detail of folk-tale illustration, so that both books possess an integrity foreign to gimmicks like *Masquerade*. Contrarily though, they won't sell a million copies.



## Magical plots

### The Genie and Her Bottle by Nina Beachcroft

(Heinemann, £5.95)  
**Well Met by Witchlight; Under the Enchanter; A Visit to Folly Castle; The Wishing People** by Nina Beachcroft  
(Dragon Paperbacks, £1.25 each)

When Alex spends the money for her school socks on a stoppered blue bottle in which she thinks she has seen something more, she sets in train a series of comic events which are no less enjoyable for being shaped to a known pattern. As in all Nina Beachcroft's fantasies, the electric possibilities of magic short-circuit of daily life. The genie that Alex and her brother Rob set loose - a languid, peremptory Arabian Nights beauty named Leila - is as much trouble to them as the genie was to Folly and Dignity in C. S. Lewis's *The Magician's Nephew*. Though Leila announces "I am your willing slave", it is Alex whose tired arm must give Leila's luxurious hair the requisite one hundred strokes of the brush.

As any of the children in Nina Beachcroft's books might complain, in instantly recognizable tones, "It's not fair". Her magical plots have none of the portentous mysticism of many of the vogue fantasies of the sixties and seventies; instead she uses magic lightly to explore the theme of control. Her children are dependent - as children really but storybook children rarely are - on adults; and no amount of wishing, magical or otherwise, can make much difference. Rob's discovery in *The Genie and Her Bottle* that "parents could be very disappointing", echoes through Nina Beachcroft's earlier books, now reissued as uniform paperbacks. The magic, then, gives the children an arena in which they have the opportunity to order

their own lives; but their inexperience at making decisions in the real world translates into a fatal clumsiness at making wishes. The obnoxiousness of parents to whom magic seems only a form of play (which at one level it is) leaves them in sort out the mess for themselves; and, perhaps, to grow up enough to conclude with Martha and Tom at the end of *The Wishing People* that "We didn't really know what we truly wanted".

These are homely books: subject matter not in their treatment of it. The very familiarity of their tone and content makes them somehow forgettable; they do not linger in the mind. And yet in their refusal to play in the gallery, to make everything grand and wonderful or grand and terrible, their willingness to allow "the poetry" to wait if it conflicts with the chance of "a really good game of draughts", they achieve a quiet balance.

They offer, too, in place of originality, a refreshing liveliness of approach. Take, for instance, this splendid piece of descriptive delivered by the dispirited good witch Mary at first sight of her enemy Mrs Black in *Well Met by Witchlight*: "Poxy piece of a mangy polecat! Pah! Come to see what your miserable hail and wind have done, you cracked silver of a cat's claw! You toad's nurd." In the course of some elemental battle between good and evil, this distributive would probably delight the children who have chummed up with Mary; spat by a dirty, disreputable old woman at a smart middle-class lady in a leopard-skin coat, in the middle of the village street, it is an acute embarrassment. Like Alex and Rob's genie, Mary is a nuisance as well as a pleasure: the mundane world will not accommodate her. And in the end it is the mundane world, the world of draughts and poetry, "the richness of ordinary happy family life", which enfolds the children and excludes Mary. As Rob puts it, with Leila safely corked up again and bobbing down the Thames, "Here I come, Life!"

Neil Philip

## Pictures and play-rhymes for chiro-gymnasts

One of Ian Beck's thirty-ish colour pictures from Round and Round the Garden, a collection of play-rhymes made by Sarah Williams (Oxford University Press, £5.95). It's a book which cheerfully combines pictorial entertainment for the child with simple instructions for the parent on how to play these traditional action games, but such extensive treatment necessarily restricts the number of rhymes that can be used.

Another reissue worth noting is the paperback edition of Barbara Ireson's *Faber Book of Nursery Verse* (Faber, £4.25). It's a book notorious for its dotty page layouts, but these are caused as much as anything by the prodigality and verve of the editor's selection.

*Dan Alone* goes back in time to 1922 and an 11-year-old boy whose view of the world is heavily influenced by his reading of Victorian children's fiction with its benevolent benefactors, long-lost but patriotic parents and saintly children. Dan acts out these fantasies in real life as he attempts to discover who his father is and to convert the thieves amongst whom he has fallen to righteous ways.

In between the Victoriana is a reworking of a major *Gumby's* *Rod* theme: children playing house for real as they hide away from the authorities. In both books there is a wealth of domestic detail and a great many floors are scrubbed.

*Dan Alone* falls uncasily between stools. Its over-riding sense of place is Victorian with its literary references and its Fagin-like gang of thieves. Only the references to motorists and corned beef serve to recall the 20s.

If this were a pastiche of Victorian children's fiction, the young hero's priggish reference to "undesirable characters" and the often stilted dialogue would be acceptable - a Townsend thief talks of "pains in the neck". But the logic of such pastiche is not followed through as characters thus appear siphoned simply implausible and dialogue old-fashioned.

But Townsend's social pioneer is still in evidence in his creation of *Benji the Jew*, a parapetite glazier despised in the streets for his race. *Benji* serves most aptly in these National Front days to inform young readers of the anti-semitism of our recent past. That *Benji* should turn out to be *Dan's* father provokes real dramatic tension and an interesting graduation of feeling in the son from loathing and fear to pity and love.

This is something for which younger readers may not be entirely prepared. Do we leave them to get on with it, or is there an onus on parents, teachers and librarians to know more about this borderland of fiction that lies between, let us say, *Little Women* and *Lolita*?

Jennie Ingham  
**Celtic hinterland**  
**The Dragonfly Years** by Mollie Hunter  
(Hamish Hamilton, £5.50)

Is the cult of the teenage novel just an excuse for literary ladies to write up-market Mills & Boon romances? Mollie Hunter's *The Dragonfly Years* has a veneer of culture about it. Politics and religion in the Edinburgh of the 1930s are glimpsed. The heroine, Bridie McShane, first met in Miss Hunter's previous *A Sound of Chariots*, assures us constantly that she will subordinate everything to becoming a writer. But her love-life, which is the *fit* route of the story, is described with about the same conviction as occurs in most of the heart-throb paperbacks. No tension - and a prose style that suggests it is one of Bridie's early efforts to impress her night-school tutors.

The same trite prose characterizes Joan Lingard's Edinburgh story too, *The Water Visitor* (Hamish Hamilton, £5.50). But at least Miss Lingard buries some of her drama in the narrative, instead of announcing it from stage-front. The story turns on the

reappearance of an old love in the life of Rosa Murray, and I suppose that it's published as a children's book because the action is viewed through the eyes of her fifteen-year old son, who wants to be a painter. He's a pretty non-committal guy who takes in his stride both the "winter visitor" and the affair which his sister is having with an Italian restaurateur, and there's a lot of Lingardish stuff about the everlasting disputes of the Belfast Irish. Yet again though, it's not hard in all this to see the weary stereotypes of romance, dressed up expensive in hard covers.

But if you look at another example of dire experiences in the Celtic hinterland, then you begin to see how stories should be written. Polly Devlin's *The Far Side of the Lough* (Gollancz, £5.50) is ostensibly a set of tales told by Lingard-Elton to a young girl in her charge. All are drawn from Mary-Elton's life as the daughter of a poor fisherman on the coast of Lough Neagh - but far from being mollifying experiences they are instinct with fierce life. Stark, terrible, comic things happen on the far side of that Lough. Much loved dolls are decapitated, pigs are gutted before your very eyes; the Black and Tans wreak pointless anguish on a gentle girl; Mary-Elton lives for the reader as neither of those Scottish narrators do, and her plain authentic speech brings her stories pulsingly to life.

Heather Renshaw  
**Bludgeoned for laughs**  
**Super Gran; Super Gran Rules O.K!** by Forrest Wilson  
(Kestrel Books, £5.50 each)

The attractive thing about Granny Smith (the "ordinary" little, old, white-haired lady" who just happened to be sitting in the right place when struck by an amazing energizing ray) is that in her "Super" state - now apparently permanent - she combines many of the characteristics which children find both frightening and irresistible in each other and which tend to embarrass them - again with a touch of fascination - when found in the more non-standard sort of grown-up. Super Gran is irrepressible, boundlessly energetic, conceited, outspoken, inventive, dictatorial, well-intentioned, sometimes glib, optimistic, set in her ways, golden-hearted under that appalling tummy. There is a touch of the terrifying tartan army about her, but you know that, far from vandalizing other people's property on the way home from the ground, she would be out there knocking the vandals' heads together. And probably fracturing their skulls.

Of these three books, two are new hardback editions of old titles and the third a brand new story. *Super Gran* is *Magic* assembled the now familiar cast: Mr Black, the inventor, Edison Faraday, his ham-footed daughter, Willard, who is Granny's grandson, and Super Tub, the reformed villain's assistant who is currently applying his muscles (which are not fat) to a circus. The action as usual springs from one of Mr Black's improbable brainwaves, in this case a machine for hypnotizing people which arouses the interest and cupidty of Myrtle, an incompetent, mildly dishonest theatrical magician, and his stooge, Margot.

As in the earlier books - and presumably in contrast to the 350,000 eager buyers claimed by the publisher - I found myself more bludgeoned than enticed into laughter. Perhaps, four stories in, the bludgeoning effect is getting less: Mr Wilson seems to be taking a little more time and trouble with his characters and the predicament of Myrtle, as he sinks from one third-rate engagement to the next, invites rather than demands the odd chuckle. But this is an approach his creator still needs to foster.

David Wade  
**The chip test**  
I've just looked at half a dozen different explanations of how a silicon chip is made. Three left me none the wiser, three made some sense. The chip test is not the only way of sifting out the flood of children's fact books about computers that has appeared in recent months. But you have to start somewhere.

There is no doubt that every home should have one. You don't actually need to know anything about how a computer works to use one. But children are growing up with the things, the home and school micros they have access to are only a small part of the story, and most want to know more.

The books I have seen were pretty similar in treatment, content and even (with one exception) the rather dreary mix of pictures. They give a bit of history, a bit about how computers work, a bit about programming, a bit about their uses in the world, and a bit about likely developments.

Some provide glimpses of the future. Few doubts are raised about consequences and social effects: computers are a Good Thing, enabling mums and children to work from home and the police to catch more criminals.

Most of the books were adequately clear and informative. The three best (all of which passed the chip test) were the *Usborne Guide to Computers* by Brian Raffin Smith (Usborne, £1.85), *Computer World*, by Jacquetta Megarry (Kingfisher, £2.95) and *Computers*, by Neil Ardrey (Kingfisher, £4.95).

Provided you like the bright and busy style, the *Usborne* book is full of digestible information, and the jokey pictures convey a surprising amount about how computers, logic gates, and so on work. It has something for most ages, and includes activities, and games. Neil Ardrey goes deeper into the workings of computers, and his book is a better bet for people who like their information to come in sober and serious-minded form. It has excellent diagrams and a clear, if dullish, text.

Jacquetta Megarry's book is a good compromise, combining a lot of information presented in an interesting and straightforward way, with puzzles and activities (including some programming in BASIC), and a brief glossary of computing terms. It also has the great advantage of coming as a handy, nearly pocket-sized, hardback, good for taking on journeys and reading in bed.

Virginia Makins  
**Taken short**  
**Adrift** by Allan Baillie (Blackie, £4.95). Winner of the first Kathleen Fidler Award with a well-earned theme of two children washed out to sea on a packing-case. The action is interspersed with an undeveloped plot about Dad's failure as a farmer.

The *Devil's Door-bell*. By Anthony Morowitz (Patrick Hardy, £4.95). Looks like being an exhilarating comic thriller, but ends up tangled in a too-ambitious effort to unite the powers of nuclear fission and ancient witchcraft.

The *Worm* and the *Toffened Princess*, and other stories of *Monsters*. By Eva Ibbotson (Macmillan, £3.95). One of four books in a new series of re-invented or re-told folk tales. Although it makes fun of things like Krakens and Brollachans, which it should not, it has a liveliness of language that is less prominent in its three companions: *Beyond the Firelight* by Ann Lawrence, *The Boy who Turned into a Goat* by James Riordan, and *A Small Pudding for Wee Gowrie* by William Mayne.

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## No ravens by order

### Mortimer's Cross by Joan Aiken

(Cape, £5.50)  
**Cyril Bonhamy and the Great Drain Robbery** by Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy

(Cape, £4.95)

If you ever wondered what difference an illustrator made to the text, you have only to look at the work of Quentin Blake. With Joan Aiken, the fantastical wits are well matched: with Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, the illustrations improve the text.

Mortimer the raven is well known to Jackanory watchers, and he lives with the Jones family in Rainwater Crescent in a dismal part of London - or it could be anywhere in the less than brave new world the planners have created. Ravens are large, threatening birds, and Mortimer is no exception. So awful is he that the Library Committee has gone to the trouble of having a special notice made which reads "No Ravens in the Library. By Order". Arabel Jones, the little girl who loves Mortimer, can never understand why people really don't care for a big black bird who causes nothing but trouble, and only says "Kaaaark", or alternatively "Nevermore".

There are three stories - *The Mystery of Mr Jones's Disap-*

pearance, *Mortimer's Cross*, and *Mortimer's Portrait on Glass* - and it is an extremely funny book, where everything is pushed to the edge of hysterical farce, yet has a firm foundation in life. Where else would the Kalong bats from the docks meet but Rumhury Tower Heights, a gruesome office block put up at such great expense that no one has ever been able to afford to work in it? Not only a bat hostel, but a robber's hideout, a lair for kidnapers, and a wonderful spot for skateboarding.

Pirate radios, stolen taxis, holidays in Ireland, even the figure largely, Great Aunt Owen Jones, who comes from Bangor to look after the family when Mum has flu is a splendid creation, and Quentin Blake has created a companion portrait to the terrifying Aunt Fidget, Womham Strong (who wore iron hats) from Russell Hoban's *Naked* series. They are sisters in spirit, and Great Aunt Owen, in her never-ending battle against germs and dirt, manages to repress the hitherto irrepressible Mortimer by giving him a bath.

Cyril Bonhamy is the hero (if you can describe him as such) of two earlier books, and he is one of those people who, quite innocently, are always in the midst of a huge misunderstanding. He is under the impression he can speak French, and that he is speaking it to the Director of the Public Library in Nice, where he is on holiday with the longest suffering wife in literature, *Deirdre*. He is, in fact, speaking to the head of a gang of international crooks, who are under the impression that Cyril is one of them. How he comes to be on the run from the gendarmes across France and into Belgium, part of the time disguised as a housemaid and

part of the time smelting, very strongly of sewage is one of those things that neither he, nor indeed anyone else, can get absolutely straight. I found the exploits of Cyril just a bit laboured, the film frantic rather than furious, and without the horrible logic of Mortimer and his habit.

Philippa Toomey

## Real not cardboard

### Healer by Peter Dickinson

(Gollancz, £5.95)  
There is something about spiritualism, clairvoyance and astrology that makes them oddly unsatisfactory topics for novels: it is as if they were too slippery, too eccentric, even as backdrops. Heroes who are in touch with other powers are rarely very endearing.

Peter Dickinson, however, is a superb and reliable storyteller and deft enough with his characters in his new novel for younger readers, *Healer*, to manage not to make them suffer from finding themselves in a faith-healing community. An ingredient of the supernatural is the background increasingly present in his more recent work - in fact only serves to add tension to a fast moving, rather old-fashioned, adventure story.

Pinkie is a stout, serious child possessed of a strange gift for healing. Rather inert when it comes to everyday practicalities, she is befriended at school by Barry, an older boy, who mends her glasses and accompanies her on visits to her grandfather.

Pinkie's talents are soon harnessed by a cult leader who marries her widowed mother and installs her - a prisoner - in a country house now turned into an extremely expensive healing centre. Barry, financed by Pinkie's anxious grandfather, tracks her down and engineers her escape. In a great finale, centering around a midnight chase, the two children make their get-away. But not forever: Peter Dickinson knows precisely where to brake the more improbable reaches of the imagination.

As with his books for adults *Healer* works. Pinkie and Barry are real people, not cardboard figures, with the fears and needs of ordinary children. It is their solidity that cleverly anchors a cast of adults whose behaviour is never wholly explained - but then, in a child's eye, is adult behaviour ever wholly explainable? It is precisely this twist that makes *Healer* such a clever book.

Caroline Moorehead

## Between stools

### Dan Alone

By John Rowe Townsend  
(Kestrel, £5.95)  
In *Dan Alone* John Rowe Townsend returns to the Northern streets, the pub and the derelict hide-away of his first book *Gumby's Yard*. The genesis of that first novel lay in the lives of the "socially deprived" as observed by Townsend in his capacity as reporter for the *Manchester Guardian*, when the treatment of such subject matter was seen as pioneering.

Rosemary Stones  
**Not so flip**

**Run, Run as Fast as You Can** by Mary Pope Osborne  
(Patrick Hardy, £4.95)  
**Things are Seldom What They Seem** by Sandy Asher  
(Gollancz, £5.95)

*Run, Run as Fast as You Can* seems for a while to be following the usual pattern of an American teenage novel. Eleven-year-old Hallie wants to be recognised as an adult within her family and wants to find a place for herself among the pretty and popular set of girls in her school class.

Half way through the book, however, the style makes a striking change: when Hallie is confronted by the dreadful reality of her younger brother dying of cancer. She is pois-

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DETENTION BY ERROR

Earlier this month a mentally handicapped patient who had been sent to Rampton Hospital 11 years ago as a boy of sixteen was released on the instructions of a Mental Health Review Tribunal...

Outside hospital for the rehabilitation of mental patients is an important side-issue in the case: it is not enough to improve the machinery if the means are absent.

If the law had not been changed, Mr Clarke might have been robbed of his liberty for longer, and might have sunk into an institutionalized state where he could no longer have benefited even if the wrong done to him had been discovered.

SANCTIONS NEED CONCERTING

The signing in Moscow today of a new five-year grain agreement between the United States and the USSR may mark a fresh approach by Washington to the thorny question of economic sanctions...

USSR and the millionaire middleman, also had some advantages for the taxpayers in saved storage costs.

Smashing the lost orders, and now President Reagan has decided to remove the embargo which was imposed in response to the 1978 dissident trials.

BOWLING ALONG THE ROAD

A form of locomotion favoured by Toad and B Wooster must be good. So Ford thinks, for it has re-invented the convertible in a version of the Escort.

make the two-seater sing. But Toad was vainglorious, and the two-seater cooled down when Jeewes took the controls.

worn. There is no known method of sealing a convertible against draughts; nor, eventually, against water.

The Turkish question

From Sir Bernard Burrows Sir, Your criticism of the current Turkish constitutional process (leader, August 15) omits important historical considerations.

continuing stalemate between the two main parties. The politicians then in power were unable to agree on the means of suppressing terrorism of the right and left which was making life intolerable for the ordinary citizen.

nair. The present process is deliberately slower and more gradual, in the hope that it may be longer lasting and not require another military intervention in 10 years' time.

Growing doubt on youth training

From the Director of Youthaid Sir, Michael Howard's letter (August 18) about the rejected plan for Kent County Council to provide 500 Youth Training Scheme places is so misleading that those less tolerant than I would call it vexatious.

Balanced view of Soviet challenge

From the Chancellor of the University of Toronto Sir, I read your leading article, "Soviet challenge", of August 20 on my way back from the Soviet Union where I was discussing the resumption of academic exchanges...

Paid jobs for all

From Professor P. R. G. Layard Sir, Alan Eden-Green (August 3) has advocated work-sharing as a solution to the unemployment problem.

At the grassroots

From the Right Reverend Robin Woods Sir, "Grassroots mergers" figure in your headline story for August 16.

Body and mind

From Dr Patrick Pietroni Sir, I have only recently returned from holiday and read the three articles published (Spectrum, August 8, 9 and 10) together with your leading article (August 10) and the subsequent correspondence.

Commands in Greece

From Mr Martin Gilbert Sir, May 1 use the courtesy of your correspondence column to right a wrong. In a letter to his son in June, 1941, Winston Churchill wrote of 60 British soldiers who surrendered...

Bracken-spraying on Dartmoor

From Lady Sayer Sir, A valuable report prepared for the Council for National Parks by Dr Ian Brotherhood, of Sheffield University, reveals the increasing strength of agricultural representation on national park boards and committees...

Refugees' contribution

From Mr Bernard Denvir Sir, The second leader in your issue of August 20 was a worthy and finely expressed tribute to a man of great gifts and distinction.

Truth in advertising

From Mr Basil Boothroyd Sir, Your correspondent (August 20) reporting 10 proclaimed chemical additives in his ice-cream is right to infer that the British palate has become blunted.

Political contributions

From Mr Paul Tyler Sir, If Mr Tebbit's proposals for corporate contributions to the parties are to be truly equitable then shareholders should be given the individual right to opt out of any political levy imposed - whether through a union or not - by their company.

Heisenberg in 1922

Heisenberg in 1922 demonstrated the impossibility of such an ideal, and yet the acme of Western medical thinking is still the "double blind controlled study".

Heisenberg in 1922

Heisenberg in 1922 demonstrated the impossibility of such an ideal, and yet the acme of Western medical thinking is still the "double blind controlled study".



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE August 24: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited Orkney, and in the morning visited the Pier Arts Centre at Stromness.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE August 24: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this afternoon opened the Thamesdown Housing Association...

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. C. Coombs and Miss L. M. Fradley The engagement is announced between the son of Dr G. R. V. Coombs...

Mr J. M. Fellows and Miss J. C. Cleobury The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mrs M. E. Fellows...

Captain N. J. Foster and Miss E. Shields The engagement is announced between Nicholas Foster, Royal Artillery...

Mr J. P. Hards and Miss J. C. Parry The engagement is announced between Justin, son of Mr and Mrs William E. F. Hards...

RAF Church of St Clement Danes

The Ministry of Defence announces that a service of thanksgiving will be held at 11.00 am on Sunday, October 23...

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Lord Biles to be a member of the board of the Channel Four Television Company...

Welsh watering place revived

Glasses were raised in llandrindod Wells, Powys, yesterday when the Welsh town launched a campaign to recapture its Edwardian success as a watering place for health seekers.

Birthdays today

Air Marshal Sir Michael Armitage, 53; Mr Leonard Bernstein, 65; Mr Sean Connery, 53; Mr Frederick Fosyth, 45; Mr Andrew Gardner, 51; Lord McGregor of Durris, 62; Mr Brian Moore, 62; Mr Bryan Mosley, 52; Lieutenant-General Sir Harold Redman, 84; Sir Graham Rowlandson, 75; Sir Thomas Shankland, 78; Dr Paul Steinzil, 74; Mrs M. S. Trenchman, 64.

Divorce for judge

Mr Justice Mustill, who sits in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court was granted a decree nisi in an uncontested suit in the London Divorce Court yesterday ending his marriage of 23 years.

Luncheon

H.M. Government Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host yesterday at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of the Ambassador of the Ivory Coast.



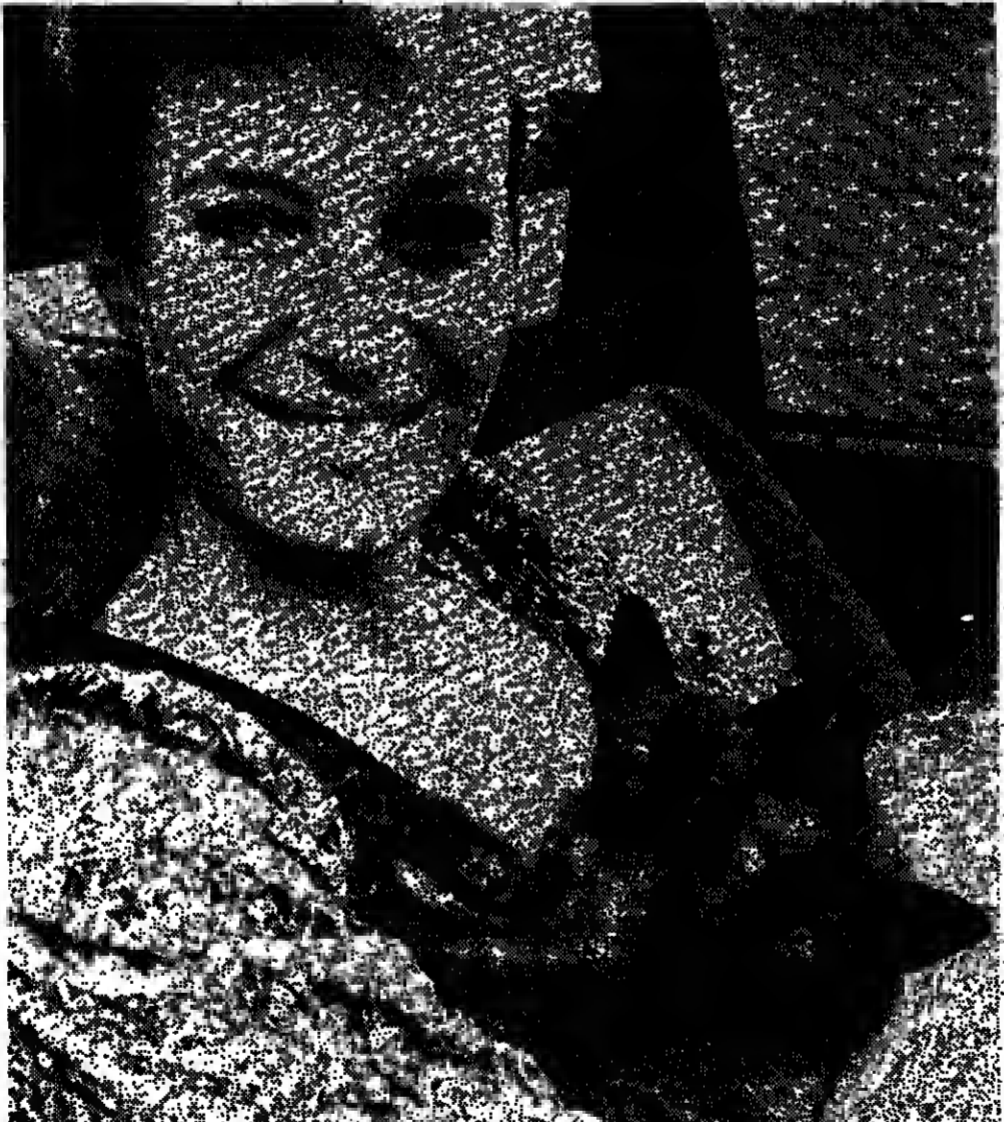
Mrs Alice Angell Everard with the Nobel Peace Prize gold medal awarded to her great-uncle, Sir Norman Angell, the Labour MP and distinguished writer, in 1933. Yesterday she presented the medal on long loan to the Imperial War Museum, London. (Photograph: John Manning).

Move to weed out indifferent colleges and crammers

A new inspection system for the 150 private tutorial colleges and crammers, designed to reassure foreigners and to distinguish the good institutions from the less efficient, is to be launched in the next few weeks.

Archaeology Early Fen settlement discovered

Archaeologists working on the edge of the Fens near Peterborough have discovered one of the earliest settled communities known in the region.



Princess Michael of Kent at her home in Stroud, Gloucestershire, with two 12-week-old brown Burmese kittens, replacements for her pet, Kitty, who was knocked down and killed three weeks ago.

Science report Phenomenon of rising US teenage pregnancy rate

Nearly \$2m (£1.3m) has been granted by the Ford Foundation in the United States for research into projects investigating the soaring level of teenage pregnancies in America.

'Smile' order at carnival

Carnival will be on the streets of Notting Hill, London, again this weekend, with police officers under orders to smile, and be cheerful.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid): Chapman, Mr Anthony Charles, of Badleigh Salterton, Devon, chartered patent agent, £228,375.

HAWKINS AND TIPSON plc Notice is hereby given of the appointment of Lloyds Bank Plc as Registrar. All documents for registration and correspondence should in future be sent to the address below.

OBITUARY

MR P. R. C. ELLIOTT

Original research into mass communications

Mr P. R. C. Elliott, one of the leading figures in British research into journalism and mass communications in general, died on August 18. He was 40.

SIR NIKOLAUS PEVNER

Professor Peter Lasko writes: Your very full account (August 19) of Sir Nikolaus Pevner's achievements never leaves me somehow, something unsaid.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid): Jackson, Mr Arthur Frank of Chardlers, Hampshire, £203,951.

Advertisement for Holly Hill EX... featuring a horse and rider illustration.

### THE ARTS

## Holly Hill reports on the first musical hit of the Broadway season

# Exotic birds in a gilded cage

La Cage aux folles  
Palace, New York

*La Cage aux folles* may be about homosexuals, but emotionally it is the straightest new musical to open on Broadway in years. The show has the sleek polish and razzle-dazzle of recent Broadway musical hits, but unlike most of them backs the glitter with a heart full of, yet made more generous by, worldly experience.

Based upon Jean Poiret's long-running French play, which also inspired the film of the same name, Harvey Fierstein's book advances the thesis of his Tony-award-winning *Torch Song Trilogy* - that people of different sexual preferences live-and-let-live - with his distinctive voice and more disciplined craft. More than the film and, one presumes, Poiret's farce, the musical is a dual love story.

Owner and master of ceremonies of La Cage aux folles, St Tropez nightspot which features a drag show, Georges (Gene Barry) has lived happily in a homosexual marriage with his star and transvestite "wife" Albin (George Hearn). They

have raised the son of Georges's one heterosexual encounter, Jean-Michel (John Weiner), who wants to marry a girl of priggish parentage and is concerned to present a traditional family image. In the madcap scramble variously to dematerialize, masculinize, disguise, rationalize and finally recognize Albin, the marital and parental bonds are refreshed and deepened. On its level as a Broadway musical, this *La Cage aux folles* has some of the abiding qualities of Mary Renault's *The Last of the Wine*.

The story is framed by numbers at La Cage featuring "Les Cagelles", a chorus of 10 men in drag and - just to keep the audience guessing - two women. For these extravagant costumes, Theoni V. Aldredge (costumes), David Mitchell (sets) and Jules Fisher (lighting) spin their palettes with giddy abandon and come up with displays of curtains changing colour and texture at the turn of a get and outfits ranging - in the opening number alone - from saffron capes, thrown off to reveal art deco lounging pyjamas thrown off to show pink and purple sailor dresses and 12 pairs of chorine legs. In another number "Les Cagelles" are

paraded as exotic birds and, later, like dignified daffodils got up for Ascot.

Scenes offstage at La Cage and in other locales advance the action while revealing character. In "A Little More Mascara" we watch Albin don his nightclub make-up and costume as he sings about what dressing in drag does for his self-esteem: "By rouging the other cheek... I can cope again. There's hope again". Throughout the show, the composer-lyricist Jerry Herman wittily and sensitively captures the characters and milieu. Gene Barry sings that La Cage "is slightly forties and a little new wave/You may dance with a girl who needs a shave".

There is no blockbuster title song from the creator of *Hello, Dolly* and *Mame*; here Jerry Herman has channelled his strengths into ballads, and he, Mr Fierstein and the director Arthur Laurents know just how to use them to broadest effect. When Jean-Michel sings of his love for his girl, his heterosexual sentiments are echoed by his father's for Albin. Georges sings tellingly of Albin's mother-love and Jean-Michel signals his acceptance of that view in a reprise in front of his girl's

outraged parents. Loveliest of all is "Song of the Sea", Georges's tribute to his youthful attraction and lasting love for his partner. The show's sensational song is Albin's Act I finale, which brings the audience to its feet with the sentiment "Your life is sham/Until you can shout 'I am what I am'".

There are disappointments in the show. The meeting between the prospective in-laws drags until Albin jollies everyone with a song, and the choreography by Scott Salmon is dull. The staging of the musical numbers - with chorines riding trapezes, sliding down bars, tapping and somersaulting and can-canning - almost masks the unimaginative nature of the actual steps, but one longs in vain for even one number where dance is glorified. Among the compensations still unmentioned are the graceful voices and performances of George Hearn and Gene Barry, who delight with good humour, warm with dignity and touch with humanity an odd couple who could inspire the audience to rethink the whole question of who's got rhythm.

Holly Hill



Gene Barry (left) and George Hearn: delighting with humour, touching with humanity

### EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

## Seriousness imbued with all the fun of the fair

Die Zauberflöte  
Playhouse

There have been mutterings in Edinburgh about the need for the Festival to import the Hamburg State Opera's *Magic Flute* when Scottish Opera is newly possessed of a widely liked production of its own. I hope Tuesday night's performance will have settled them, for Achim Freyer's conception is as different from Jonathan Miller's as blissful idiosyncrasy is from learning. On *Papageo* from Sarastro, or indeed Mozart from Mozart, and this is the extraordinary thing: the same score comprehends both, and sounds as much at home to Mr Freyer's circus as ever it did in Dr Miller's library.

Played on, around and underneath a tatty canvas-coloured platform, this is a production full of stunts. Sarastro, magnificently sung by Robert Lloyd as

a late substitution, is a 20-foot giant revealed behind curtains when he has to be. So much for him. Moosstos and his cronies are blue meanies with white boots and helmets. The Queen of the Night is another figure of grotesque, stationary enormity. Tamino a boy dandy who has stepped out of a silent film romance in his smart sailor suit and gym shoes.

Best of all, Papageo is a beggy-trousered clown who comes swiveling in on a rope a couple of times, and who, by the simple expedient of a carrot false nose, is rescued from all the usual sentimentality. Papageo as the common man is a character who rapidly slips into the maudlin. Papageo as a clown is something else: sympathy is held at bay by nuances of alarm and scorn. So at least it is in this splendid performance by Mikael Melbye, who behind his clown make-up can sing with complete and easy naturalness.

The virtues of the production, however, go further. In the first place, it

is quite simply a stunning piece of theatre. Working as his own designer, Mr Freyer takes nothing for granted and leaves his audience with never a dull moment. But that is not necessarily a positive merit; after all, he could have done the same thing with *La traviata* or *The Flying Dutchman*. A circus presentation of *The Magic Flute*, however, seems to return it importantly to its origins in a theatre of low vulgarity, one where comedy is mixed with the crude and the dangerous.

At the same time this is a very thoughtful performance, and out of its thoughtfulness comes at the end, strangely enough, a confluence of ideas with Dr Miller. As the final pean ends, so Tamino wakes as if from a dream. The cast and chorus have been shut behind a gauze; he realizes he is excluded, and for a moment he is dejected. But then he smiles and skips off. Thank goodness, he seems to be saying, life is not like that.

But thank goodness opera performances can be. One measure of the success of Mr Freyer's production is the extent to which it has won an individual enthusiasm and corporate zip from the cast: everyone appears relaxed and released to give of his or her best, while the ensemble work is as tight as a circus demands. Rüdiger Wöhlers is a Tamino who is strong, young and direct, and needs no frills. Helen Donath as Pamina similarly avoids giving star turns, though perhaps this is achieved as much by her unfeigned costume, making her look like Snow White's step-mother, as by her vocal straightforwardness.

There are also resourceful trios of ladies and boys, and the opera is conducted with seriousness but no hint of pomposity by Christoph von Dohnányi. It will all be set in motion again tonight and on Saturday.

Paul Griffiths

221B  
Church Hill Theatre

I doubt whether the reading public would have taken Sherlock Holmes to its heart without the help of Watson, that rock-solid embodiment of bovine British decency whose friendship guarantees Holmes as a good chap, despite all the mountebank intellectual evidence to the contrary. Also, when it comes to dramatization, Watson has often proved the better acting part. Hence Marvin Reed's otherwise improbable exercise of writing a one-man Baker Street play in which only Watson appears.

Set after Holmes's disappearance into the Reichenbach Falls, it introduces Watson as a lonely widower paying an elegiac trip to 221B for a last look round the old place, which is now up for sale.

Nigel Stock shuffles in proprietorially, removes the dust sheet from his favourite chair and relaxes amid the familiar clutter of Pamela Howard's set. Memories drift back as he scans *The Times* obituary, and before long he is inspecting Holmes's chemical table, fondling the Stradivarius and uncovering an Action Man-like replica of his old friend, seated at his desk. And, as he reminisces on Holmes's educational shortcomings and tendency to brag,

Watson also starts taking on a new role as the Baker Street Boswell, whose account of Holmes's cases have made him known to the world.

At this point the play hits a rock. It starts with the shared game of treating Holmes and Watson as real people with real biographies and leads you to expect a memory play. But, once the opening flourishes are over, there is nothing for memory to feed on but fiction.

Thus, with an audible gear-change, Mr Reed moves from a study of their characters into a series of thumbrail recollections of their adventures. Doorbells ring, issuing in invisible visitors. Mr Stock gets busy turning himself into a

Spanish beauty, a Scottish housekeeper and Lestrade of the Yard; and it says much for his technique that Watson remains clearly in view throughout these transformations.

The fatal ventilator lights up for "The Speckled Band": the whole set goes into an illuminated downpour for Holmes's first with Moriarty, and Mr Stock is fitfully seen circling the stage with a dark lantern, and climbing over the furniture, in his escape from the Hampstead burglary.

If there is any actor alive who could pull it off, Mr Stock is the man; but, apart from the indestructible appeal of the stories themselves, the enter-

prise becomes increasingly pointless. Watson originally dropped in for a private reverie; so why is he now patently putting on a show for an audience?

Jack Emery's production at least popularizes the stage with a sense of unscen life, and extracts some wonderful rapid timing from Mr Stock, simultaneously offering himself a cocaine overdose and recoiling from it. Also, some of the original contrast between truth and fiction does survive, as in Holmes's querulous objection to the illustrations in Watson's books: "Do I look like a man who would wear a deerstalker hat?"

Irving Wardle

## Dance The mark of class

New York City Ballet  
Covent Garden

The second programme of New York City Ballet's visit to London on Tuesday introduced two further new works with one known favourite. Balanchine's *Mozartiana*, which opened the programme, is a disconcerting work, not in the least what one might expect, but it has about it the marks of greatness which should become easier to follow as we get used to the piece.

The music is Tchaikovsky's Suite No 4, with its homage to the older composer, and the choreography similarly makes use of old forms, as in the opening "Preghiera", an invocation of prayer solos such as we have seen in *Coppelia*, or the Gigue, full of the bows and scrapings and nimble cartwheels on which Massine, for instance, might have built a minor character, a wailer perhaps, in one of his comedies.

But how Balanchine transforms his raw material! Tall Suzanne Farrell, with four small girls (pupils from Bushy School) in attendance, decorates the pious poses with the most tender grace-notes; and Jack Soto in his solo is just bounding unpredictably about



Scintillating ease: Suzanne Farrell and Ib Andersen in *Mozartiana*

the stage from start to finish of his music, to irrepressibly joyous effect.

The longest section, the Theme and Variations, brings back Farrell, joined by the company's latest Danish star, Ib Andersen, for a duet followed by several solo pieces, an ensemble bringing in the four tall young women who have previously danced a pretty Menuet, and another duet to finish. This sequence is full of the most amazing invention,

nor enhance each other by contrast or similarity.

The music is a selection of Tchaikovsky's piano pieces written at different periods of his career, most of which will be unfamiliar to concert-goers although some will be known to balletomanes from other contexts. The group dances seemed to me either relentlessly fussy, as in the "Danse Caractéristique" for six boisterous couples, or too trivially simple, for instance another piece of

lent a heightened intimacy to the music. Indeed, its many shades of melancholy seemed more than usually acute.

Exactly 150 years later in the same tradition, another concerto, Berg's for violin, also benefited from the comparatively modest size of the ensemble. Curiously enough, it was the reduced body of strings (in comparison with a normal symphony orchestra) that ap-

*Puppet Court*, which had its first performance. Subtitled "puzzle pieces for two chamber orchestras", this derives from puzzle canons by the sixteenth-century British composer John Lloyd, and at first evokes that distant period. Soon, however, a resourcefully discontinuous, even humorous, antiphonal use is being made of the quite differently instrumented pair of orchestras.

Max Harrison

### Television

## Effective touch of affection

"I am a toucher", said Sister Antonia Brenner, explaining that everyone oozed the odd pat. The sister, walking round the Mexican jail she has taken under her wing for the last five years, was as good as her word and the prisoners responded with enthusiasm. Watching and talking to the nun about her rehabilitation work was Dr Miriam Stoppard who, we were told in Yorkshire's *Where There's Life* last night, had been able to reach the part of the Mexican prison system that countless others had failed to reach.

This Tijuana jail houses some 1,200 men and 50 women, there for misdemeanours ranging from theft to murder. The last governor's view of prison life has been rather severe and somebody had shot him. His successor had, as seemed desirable in the circumstances, different ideas. He encouraged prisoners to see their families

and even have them stay a while, believing that being locked away from society was punishment enough.

He brought in Sister Brenner to help. The prisoners move around freely, working or not, as they choose. The matronly Sister Brenner regards all as her children and her affectionate techniques and the governor's liberalism seem to work. Over the years, the number of prisoners returning has diminished. A plastic surgeon visits the prison regularly to remove unsightly scars and tattoos so that prisoners can face the world looking as well as feeling different. The sister, he confessed, had roped him in over a dinner.

Unfortunately, the programme's format, which covers several items in its short space, was deemed too sacrosanct to jetison one in the cause of a more complete picture. The

prison film was preceded by an item in which people, among them the "television personality" Paula Yates, talked about why they had dyed their hair.

Mama had dyed her blonde because she feared that otherwise she might look like Bruce Forsyth. As she talked a group of people with extraordinary scalps looked on waiting for the verbal touch of Dr Stoppard. Not all got the opportunity though a young man with a lurid head did manage to explain that it had been more so when he dyed it blue for Christmas.

This intrusion prevented Dr Stoppard from making the most of her scoop and explaining, for instance, how Sister Brenner - who it appears had an earlier career as a wife and mother of six - came to her present vocation.

Dennis Hackett

### Promenade Concert

BBCSO/Wand  
Albert Hall/Radio 3

The German conductor Günter Wand on Tuesday made one of his extremely rare appearances as chief guest conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra: the rediscovery here of this remarkable musician, now over 70, will be a major benefit to the orchestra if he can be persuaded to give more concerts as cogent and impressive as this one.

White-haired, slightly hunched, Wand moved little during the Mozart "Posthorn" Serenade which filled the first half of the concert. But his body gently swayed with the rhythms, his baton crisply marked out a supple but firm pulse and the smallest whisk of the left hand had a galvanizing effect.

This was so illuminating to watch that I fear I may have heard the performance Wand was conducting rather than the one the players played. Though there were some wiry string passages which obscured the wind had an excellent evening, particularly in the two concertante movements in the middle which feature pairs of oboes, flutes and bassoons: to hear such amiable music so beautifully turned was a pleasure in the present work.

Both those new works come from New York City Ballet's 1981 Tchaikovsky Festival, and the evening's final work is a legacy of their 1972 Stravinsky Festival, *Symphony in Three Movements*. In this, Balanchine's choreography gives the soloists harsh, twisted movements to match the score, and sets a large corps de ballet swirling around them in great circles.

What a pity it is that so many of the expensive seats at Covent Garden, being at or below stage level, hide the marvellous floor patterns. During this season, patrons in the balcony or amphitheatre definitely have best view. Still, the splendid dancing can be enjoyed from any angle, as also the musical performances (Robert Irving again conducting, and Jerry Zimmerman as the solo pianist).

John Percival

Sinfonietta/Rattle  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

H. K. Gruber's *Charivari* is described as "an Austrian journal for orchestra", and it might have provided a pleasingly irreverent start. The performance under Simon Rattle was lively enough, but the piece's basic material, the main phrase of Strauss's "Perpetuum Mobile", is, of course, scarcely

worthy of reverence. Eventually the mask of jollity slips, and although a trumpet quotation of "Wiener Blut" contemporary music's normally compulsory unhappy ending might almost be avoided.

The London Sinfonietta is relatively small, yet Emanuel Ax, the soloist in Mozart's Piano Concerto, K.453, dominated less than might have been expected. His evident full membership of the ensemble



### MAN'S INHUMANITY TO MONKEYS...

... and other animals is nowhere more evident than in the world's research laboratories.

#### According to Home Office Statistics:

5,654 primates were used in experiments "calculated to inflict pain" in Great Britain during 1982.

Dogs, mice, rabbits, rats, birds, guinea-pigs and cats were among over 4,000,000 other animals subjected to experimentation in British laboratories last year.

In some of the worst cases animals were burned, scalded, infected with diseases, poisoned in toxicity tests, given electric shocks and forced to inhale toxic substances.

We need your help to end this barbaric method of research.

The National Anti-Vivisection Society Limited (Dept T)  
51 Harley Street, London, W1N 1DD

Please send me further information about the work of the NAVS.

Please enclose a donation of £10.00 (or other amount) payable to The National Anti-Vivisection Society Limited

Name (Mr/Ms/Miss) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

The GLC Presents  
**WAR AND PEACE**  
At the Royal Festival Hall  
A film by Sergai Bondarchuk  
Russian colour version with English dialogue.  
29 August 1983 at 2pm  
Admission £4.00  
Box office: 01-928 3191

riverside studios  
Crisp Road, Hammersmith W6 7AB 3354  
The HAIFA MUNICIPAL THEATRE Israel  
**THE SOUL OF A JEW**  
The Last Night of Otto Weininger  
A Play by YEHONATAN BONER, Directed by OODUA BERNER  
19 August - 1 September 1983  
Times 15.00  
Days 12.00

**IMI**  
for building products, heat exchange, drainage, fluid power, special-purpose valves, general engineering, refined and wrought metals.  
IMI plc, Birmingham, England

Forecasts of a 7 1/2 per cent inflation rate by the end of next year and gloomy prognoses for the economy by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research contributed to the stock market's downward spiral yesterday.

Although not as sharp as Tuesday's fall was enough to prevent buyers re-entering the market. By the close prices had begun to come off the bottom but demand was slight. The FT 30 index had been nine points down at lunch, but managed to regain some ground to show a 7.4 fall by the close at 716.6.

The trade figures made little impression on the market where gilt-edged stocks recorded losses of 3/8. Index-linked stocks bucked the trend showing gains of £1/2 making a two-day surge of more than £1. The main reason was a steady buyer probably balancing a portfolio, dealers said.

Fear of higher inflation rates are likely to add to the index-linked stocks attraction. The sector presently offers real returns over inflation of 3 per cent at the short-end to four per cent at the long.

Nevertheless, gilt analysts

# Shareholders fear 1984

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug 15. Dealings end, Sept 2. Contango Day, Sept 5. Settlement Day, Sept 12.

were holding to their support of fixed interest stock. They feel the Government is likely to begin nudging interest rates down again soon to help maintain the tentative economic recovery it claims is taking place.

The gilt analysts argued that the improved monetary performance in the United States provides the Government with the opportunity it needs to cut British interest rates.

Losses among leading equities ranged between 2p to 7p. Tuesday's big loser, Glaxo, slumped again yesterday before bargain hunters moved in helping the price to recover to 810p, a 7p fall. ICI, another American favourite, fell 2p to 524p.

London Brick's decision not to pursue lbtstock Johnson helped the shares 3p to 80p. Good profit figures and hopes that London Brick may itself now be subject to a bid

also supported the price. It stock fell 5p to 159p.

The Government's proposed tighter controls for the use of asbestos hit the shares of Turner and Newall, Britain's major asbestos manufacturers, down

Brokers Wood, Mackenzie's "aggressive buy" recommendation for the Danish pharmaceutical group Novo Industries has been vindicated up by a 52 per cent jump in profitability.

That news pushed the shares £14 1/2 higher to £207 yesterday. Wood is still bullish for the shares and believes that the high profit growth rate will continue for two years and that the shares are still modestly rated.

BPC, down 4p at 106p, has extended the closing date until Friday. It needs only another 250,000 Waddington shares to give it control. Institutional shareholders reaffirmed their rejection of the offer.

Burton Stores eased 9p to 322p in a weaker stores sector despite rumours of Burton's attempting an acquisition of the Richard Shops and John Collier chain from Hanson Trust.

Advance Services, the cleaning group, held its 82p peak price on hopes that BET would buy out the minority interests it does not already own.

The managing director of Bet, Mr Nicholas Willis, discounted the idea saying his company would not be bidding. The run-up to 310p in the shares of Brown Shipley, the banker, resulted from Duncan Larrie Investments upping its stake to 10.15 per cent with the acquisition of another 80,000 shares.

The well pressed bumper profits from Hawley Group

gave speculators the opportunity to take profits, which eased the shares back 8 1/2p to 175p.

After receiving denials last week of any major share sales by its major investors ID & S Rivlin yesterday received news that the opposite had taken place and that both Mike Saggi and Imperial Pension Fund had halved their interests.

Rivlin shares held at 75p.

House of Fraser fell 4p to 228p on news of the investigation into Fraser shareholdings and Leam's influence on the Harrods store owner.

Pritchard Services slipped another 4p to 134p following Tuesday's news of a rights issue and Spring Grove takeover. Rentokil fell 7p to 129p despite their better profits.

A single buyer came back into the market for cosmetics group Bellair yesterday pushing the price back up to 580p, an 80p rise.

Insurance retreated 5p to 12p with Pearl 5p lower at 70p after its profit figures. Disappointment over Standard Chartered profits knocked the shares back 12p to 462p.

Wayne Lintott

**RECENT ISSUES**

Ascent Group 25p (1150)	0.4	0.5
Almond Machine Tools 2.3p (10)	11.4	11.4
Alphacell 10p (50)	11.4	11.4
Alphacell 10p (50)	11.4	11.4
Alphacell 10p (50)	11.4	11.4
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Alphacell 10p (50)	11.4	11.4
Alphacell 10p (50)	11.4	11.4
Alphacell 10p (50)	11.4	11.4

**1982/83 High/Low Company Price Change pence % P/E**

30	40	New Dairies Ltd	68	0.4	0.5
31	41	N Throg Inc	83	3.1	5.8
32	42	Doan	100	0.4	0.5
33	43	New Taka	100	0.4	0.5
34	44	North Atlantic	100	0.4	0.5
35	45	Nth Sea Assets	100	0.4	0.5
36	46	Northern Amer	100	0.4	0.5
37	47	Northrop	100	0.4	0.5
38	48	Northern	100	0.4	0.5
39	49	North	100	0.4	0.5
40	50	Norfolk	100	0.4	0.5

**1982/83 High/Low Company Price Change pence % P/E**

41	51	TDR	144	0.2	0.3
42	52	T Group	144	0.2	0.3
43	53	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
44	54	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
45	55	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
46	56	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
47	57	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
48	58	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
49	59	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
50	60	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

**1982/83 High/Low Company Price Change pence % P/E**

61	71	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
62	72	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
63	73	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
64	74	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
65	75	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
66	76	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
67	77	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
68	78	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
69	79	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
70	80	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

**1982/83 High/Low Company Price Change pence % P/E**

81	91	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
82	92	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
83	93	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
84	94	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
85	95	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
86	96	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
87	97	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
88	98	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
89	99	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
90	100	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

**1982/83 High/Low Company Price Change pence % P/E**

101	111	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
102	112	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
103	113	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
104	114	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
105	115	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
106	116	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
107	117	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
108	118	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
109	119	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
110	120	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

**1982/83 High/Low Company Price Change pence % P/E**

121	131	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
122	132	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
123	133	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
124	134	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
125	135	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
126	136	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
127	137	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
128	138	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
129	139	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
130	140	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

**1982/83 High/Low Company Price Change pence % P/E**

141	151	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
142	152	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
143	153	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
144	154	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
145	155	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
146	156	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
147	157	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
148	158	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
149	159	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
150	160	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

**1982/83 High/Low Company Price Change pence % P/E**

161	171	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
162	172	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
163	173	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
164	174	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
165	175	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
166	176	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
167	177	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
168	178	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
169	179	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
170	180	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

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106	116	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
107	117	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
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115	125	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
116	126	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
117	127	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
118	128	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
119	129	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
120	130	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

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126	136	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
127	137	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
128	138	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
129	139	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
130	140	Therm	144	0.2	0.3

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131	141	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
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133	143	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
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135	145	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
136	146	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
137	147	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
138	148	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
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156	166	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
157	167	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
158	168	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
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113	123	Therm	144	0.2	0.3
114					

صكنا من الأهل

Investment and Finance

City Editor Anthony Hilton

City Office 200 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8EZ Telephone 01-837 1234

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 718.6 down 7.4 FT 100: 79.63 down 0.4 FT All Share: 454.52 down 4.55

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.5190 down 1 cent Index 85.6 down 0.1 DM 4.01 down 0.0150 Yen 12.0775 down 0.0375

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 1/2 Finance houses base rate 10 Discount market loans week fixed 9 1/4

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$423.75 pm \$424. close \$423.50-424.25 (£278.75-279.25)

TODAY

Interests: Bath and Portland (amended), BBA, Bensons Crisps, Blue Circle Inds., Britoil, BSR, Carpets Int., Greenwith Cable Communications, Highlands and Lowlands, House Property Co. of London, Ice Refrigeration, Neanders, Reliance Assurance, Scottish Agricultural, Scottish Inv. Tst. (third quarter), York-shire Chemicals.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

Delmer Group, Manor Royal, Crawley, W. Sussex (10.00) Electric & General Investment, 26 Finsbury Square, EC2 (12.30)

Changes to accounts pave way for part-privatization

British Nuclear Fuels sell-off in sight, says chairman

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

British Nuclear Fuels the state-owned nuclear waste reprocessing and fuel enrichment company, could be a candidate for partial privatization in two years, Mr Con Allday, the chairman, said yesterday.

Most of the orders come from Japan under a controversial but lucrative contract which figured largely in the Windscale public inquiry some years ago. Another \$600m worth of orders are for fuel enrichment.

The balance sheet shows BNFL had £145m of shareholders' funds against debts of £252.7m, deferred liabilities of £327.7m and government grants (treated as credits) of £89.1m.

New talks open on \$90bn Brazil debt

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Brazil's bankers began key talks in New York yesterday aimed at finding a solution to the worsening liquidity problems of the world's biggest debtor.

London Brick opts out of Istock bid

By Jeremy Warner

London Brick has decided not to renew its bid for the smaller brickmaker, Istock, Johnstone, of Leicester, despite clearance from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission last week.

Dow Jones recovers after slide

New York (AP - Dow Jones)

Stocks recovered again yesterday after slipping back to lower territory. An earlier recovery attempt failed to make much headway.

JBE talks failure worries MP

By Our Financial Staff

The Labour Party's energy spokesman wants the Government to take an interest in the future of John Brown Engineering after the announcement that the proposed £30m sale of the company to Hawker Siddeley has fallen through.

Unit trust sales beat record

By Louisa Bowrie

Booming stock markets have encouraged investors to put money into unit trusts in a big way with more units sold during the first seven months of this year than during the whole of 1982 - itself a record year.

Norcross bid puts high value on UBM

By Our Financial Staff

Norcross yesterday unfavourably compared UBM's recent profits record with its own in its offer document for the builders' merchant company for which it has made a £64m bid.

Victor of takeover battle starts selling assets

By Philip Robinson

BTR, the engineering conglomerate which won a £660m takeover battle for Thomas Tilling group two months ago, has begun to sell the group's assets.

BTR puts Tilling HQ up for sale

By Philip Robinson

BTR, the engineering conglomerate which won a £660m takeover battle for Thomas Tilling group two months ago, has begun to sell the group's assets.

Boots set for US trading

By Jonathan Clare

Boots is poised to become the latest British company to be traded in the US in the form of American Depository Receipts (ADRs).

BPCC may clinch £18m bid today

By Andrew Cornelius

Mr Robert Maxwell, chairman of the British Printing & Communication Corporation, hopes to announce today that he has clinched the £18m takeover of John Waddington, the Monopoly games company.

City Editor's Comment

Britain's problem of baton-passing

It is one of the oldest clichés in the Treasury's canon that not too much should be read into 1 month's trade figures. The same applies to a lesser extent to a single quarter. But without extrapolating trends to awful conclusions, the weakness of British exports and the strength of imports does point at the forecasters' current dilemma - whether the UK economy will be able to sustain its recovery.

The figures clearly reflect Britain's early start in the European recovery league, spurred by consumer boom at least until the summer. It is far more problematical to conclude that British manufacturers have been slow to respond, that they might be so preoccupied with cutting back to achieve statistical productivity gains that they are not really interested in banking on growth. Yet that is the crux of the recovery question.

As the latest commentary from Glasgow's Fraser of Allander Institute points out, the two main engines of our upturn so far - consumer spending and rebuilding of stocks - "have already probably made the bulk of their contribution to the present recovery". We might even add house purchase to that list.

Soon we shall be looking for that mysterious transition from cyclical recovery into sustained growth - a process particularly mysterious in Britain because it has so often failed to take place. This is usually seen as industry taking up the baton, using its competitive edge to sell more exports and its enhanced profits and prospects to invest in expansion.

Memcom International Holdings Plc Offer for Sale of 1,920,000 Ordinary shares of 10p each at 81p per share by AFCOR INVESTMENTS LIMITED

Crewe House, scene of Liberal Party functions

Liberal Party and society functions in the early 1900s and was occupied by the Department of Propaganda in Enemy Countries during the First World War. After his appointment as British Ambassador in France, the Marquess of Crewe returned to the house until Tilling bought it in 1937.

## Floyd seeks £3m of new capital

W.N.I. Half-yr Pretax Turnover Net Int Share  
Supra Half-yr Pretax Stated Turnover Net Int Share  
Ingens Year to Pretax Stated Turnover Net Int Share  
Spear Year to Pretax Stated Turnover Net Int Share  
Resour Year to Pretax Stated Turnover Net Int Share

**By Jeremy Warner**

Floyd Oil Participations called on shareholders yesterday for just over £3m of new capital by offering a rights issue of new shares at 82p each on the basis of two for every seven.

It is the third time in four years that the group, the shares of which are traded on the unlisted securities market, has asked shareholders for more money. The shares fell 10p to 93p after the news.

Floyd wants the money to help with onshore exploration and development. It said the programme would require more funds in the next two years to carry out seismic surveys and drilling for evaluation of its East Midlands and Wash licence areas.

Development and exploration wells on licensed areas are to be drilled before the end of the year and more are planned in the next three years.

Floyd was originally formed to invest in low risk wells in Canada and the United States but over three years ago it bought into onshore interests in the East Midlands.

The company estimates that pretax profits in the year to the end of last June were not less than £55,000. The year before the group made nearly £100,000.

### APPOINTMENTS

**Guinness Peat Property Services.** Sir Robert Lawrence, part-time member of British Railways Board and chairman of British Rail Property Board, has joined the board.

**Barclays Bank UK.** Mr Don Lonsdale, assistant general manager (staff), will be a deputy divisional general manager of the Management Services Department from December 5. Mr Dick Peters, formerly an assistant general manager, Management Services Department, has been appointed a deputy divisional general manager. Mr Fred Winup, formerly head of development, Management Services Department, has been made assistant general manager (development).

**Wimpey Homes Holdings.** Mr John Campbell has become sales and marketing director.

**County Bank.** Mr Charles Wilton, not Sir Charles Wilton, will become chief executive on January 1.

**W. E. Norton (Holdings).** Mr Marvyn Brown has also been appointed a director.

**Schleiberg Group.** Mr P. M. Wignand, Mr L. S. Snyder and Mr E. C. Tarr have been appointed directors of Schleiberg Group, not of W. E. Norton (Holdings).

# John Brown's future grows bleaker

If the future looked as if it would be bleak after John Brown's sale of its gas turbine division, it looks noticeably worse now that the proposed sale of the division to Hawker Siddeley has been called off.

For a start, the sale would have lopped £30m from company borrowings which stand at £105m. But, perhaps more significantly, the sale would have marked the beginning of the change in long-term strategy at the troubled engineering company such a change is needed to inspire confidence among institutional shareholders who may yet be called on to help organize a much-needed capital reconstruction.

Last night, there was no indication that the Bank of England was about to arrange such a reconstruction, despite strong City rumours.

And at the Prudential, which holds about 9 per cent of the John Brown equity, the word was that there would be little enthusiasm for such a reconstruction at a company where shareholders' funds stand at £33m but where the market capitalization is a triling £30m.

Within the market, dealers were taking the same view, having lost interest in trading John Brown shares for regular clients until the company's future is sorted out one way or another.

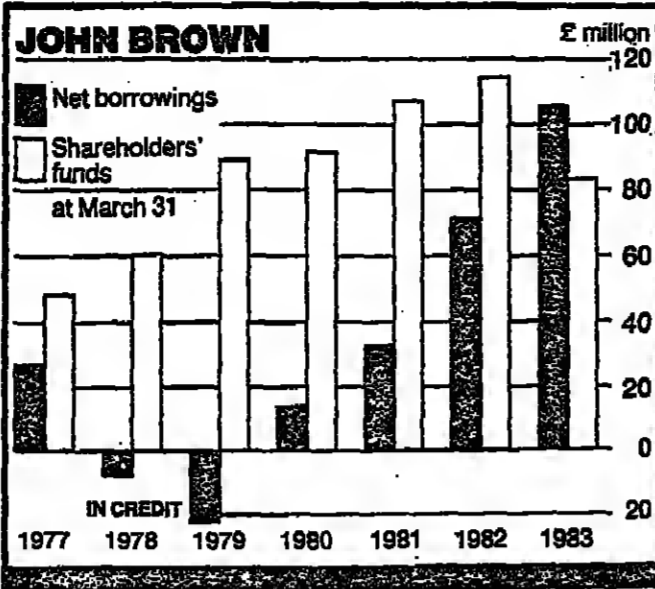
Given this outlook, Sir John Cunneen, who replaced Sir John Mayhew-Sanders as chairman last month, has his work cut out to take the company forward.

When Sir John announced that the Hawker deal was off, he bravely indicated that he was not discouraged that the two companies had failed to agree terms. He said that the gas turbine division - John Brown Engineering - should double last year's trading profits in the current year and double profits again the year after.

In the short term, he said, the breakdown of the deal has a marginally beneficial effect on the group's balance sheet.

However, in the longer-term, the failure to conclude a deal with Hawker throws into jeopardy Sir John's plan to create a slimmer group based around its construction engineering businesses. With Hawker Siddeley out of the running for the gas turbine division, and NEI and GEC showing no inclination to become involved in the bidding, he will have to think again.

That will leave much of the City, not to mention Whitehall, thinking too.



### Intl Thomson Organisation

**International Thomson Organisation**  
 Half-year to 30.6.83  
 Net profit £26.8m (£16.5m)  
 Stated earnings 19.1p (£11.8p)  
 Turnover £87.0m (£80.2m)  
 Share price 620p

To find one's business areas growing simultaneously is a good fortune allowed to few companies, but the International Thomson Organisation is one of them. The increase in net profits was markedly higher than anticipated and holds out the promise of the company making £65m for the full year against £51.5m in 1982.

Oil and gas benefited from the strength of the dollar and from slightly higher output from the Piper and Claymore fields in which it has 20 per cent. At the operating level last year hydrocarbons brought in the overwhelming level bulk of profits.

Much, therefore, depends on the success of the expansion into the second business area, American publishing. Trading profit there is running well ahead of last year, but the true position is disguised by the skill with which Thomson employs the accelerated depreciation provisions. These are running ahead of the £12.5m spent last year. In Britain, progress with the regional papers still suffering from the downturn in advertising is slow.

The Thomson strategy of appearing to cut holiday prices at the beginning of the season has paid off. Bookings are higher and the airline is flying with higher capacity utilization.

*City analysts will get a lesson in football club tactics next month. They have been invited to the White Hart Lane ground of Tottenham Hotspur to discover how a football club is run a month before the club's shares are expected to float on the Stock Exchange, the first time a football club's shares have been given a full listing. One disappointment for the visitors - they will meet the club's money men, but not its footballers.*

**London Brick**  
 Half-year to 30.6.83  
 Pretax profit £10.2m (£7.5m)  
 Stated earnings 4.41p (£3.71p)  
 Turnover £73.4m (£68.5m)  
 Net interim dividend 1.2681p (0.9755p)  
 Share price 86.5p up 2p Yield 4.6%

Production is now running at more than 10 per cent higher than in 1982, with higher levels expected.

These figures suggest that slowly but surely London Brick is putting its house in order. It has decentralised its management and subsidiary structure and its return on capital and sales seems to be improving almost daily.

Unfortunately, all this has been somewhat marred by the debacle with Istock Johnsen, the Leicester brickmaker which London Brick has been trying to acquire for seven months. The company went through a lengthy and costly Monopolies Commission investigation.

London Brick first described Istock as "expensive" at 160p ashare, and then offered 180p, only to be sent packing.

London Brick has some way to go, despite its undoubted progress, before ceasing to look vulnerable to a bid for itself.

## Fewer bad weather claims help Pearl

**By Our Financial Staff**

Fewer claims arising from bad weather in the first quarter helped Pearl Assurance to raise interim net profits from £5.24m to £7.01m.

The interim dividend has been raised by 25 per cent to 12p net and the company promises that the final will be at least as much as last year's 18p net.

The major change was the fall in the underwriting loss on general branch business from £5.64m to £3.65m. Investment income, by contrast, went up fractionally from £4.19m to £4.35m. In underwriting the significant improvement was on the British business, the loss on which declined to £2.69m from £4.74m. The loss on overseas underwriting and reinsurance rose slightly to £960,000.

The stockholders' proportion of the surplus on the life business increased from £4.96m to £6.27m, but since no new actual valuation is made for the first half the figures should not be taken as a guide for the whole year.

Premium income on the industrial branch life business accruing to the parent company was £75.5m compared with £72.7m for the same period last year. New premiums are running at an annual rate of £1.5m, up from £1.37m.

## Hawley earnings surge to £5.1m

**By Jonathan Clare**

**Hawley Group**  
 Half-year to 30.6.83  
 Pretax profit £5.1m (£1.7m)  
 Stated earnings 5.2p (2.3p)  
 Turnover £51.4m (£46.5m)  
 Net interim dividend 1.32p (1.2p)  
 Share price 175p down 10p Dividend payable 6.1.84

The expected jump in half-time profits from Hawley Group, the last of a stream of figures from Mr Michael Ashcroft's companies this week, turned up on cue yesterday.

After the rise in profits from £1.7m to £5.1m, the City now expects Hawley to make about £13.5m for the year.

The shares lost 10p to 175p yesterday "as investors" took profits after the recent rise in the share price. This gives the group a market capitalization of £9.3m.

Hawley has spent more than £60m in the United States, particularly on the security side where Electro-Protective is the main business. About half its total profits are now earned there.

Yesterday, Mr Ashcroft and an old acquaintance, Mr David Wickens of British Car Auctions, each bought 404,000 shares in ID & Rivlin. The company has a small fitted bathroom business which might fit with Hawley's fitted bedroom business.

## David Crouch figures slide to new low

Half year pretax profits reported yesterday by Derek Crouch, the open cast mining and construction company, fell to a new low of £177,000, compared with last year's first half of £414,000.

Profits have been on the slide since 1980 when the group recorded full year figures of nearly £3m.

The interim dividend is being held at 1.63p. The shares were down 3p to 68p - down from a peak of 72.5p in 1981.

Mr Derek Crouch, chairman, said the company's construction private work to reduce dependence on public sector contracts.

"There are a number of substantial claims outstanding on completed work, but these will not be included in the accounts until they are settled."

Derek Crouch has taken complete control of Power Inc, which owns 20,000 acres of coal-bearing land in Pennsylvania by buying the 40 per cent interest held by two American fuel distribution firms for a nominal sum.

Turnover for the whole company was a shade up at £28.8m compared with £28.7m for the first six months of last year.

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### COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

**Sandvik**  
 Half-year to 30.6.83  
 Pretax profit 24.7 Kr (£2.2) (12.7m Kr)  
 Turnover 309.6m Kr (27m) (£256m Kr)

**Norsk Data**  
 Half-year to 30.6.83  
 Pretax profit 24.7 Kr (£2.2) (12.7m Kr)  
 Turnover 309.6m Kr (27m) (£256m Kr)

**Slough Estates:** Reporting pretax profits for the half-year to the end of last June up from £7.2m to £9.1m. Mr Nigel Bombs, the chairman of Slough Estates, said he was confident of further profit growth for the full year. He added that the company is pursuing a number of new developments, both in the United Kingdom and overseas. The interim dividend is being lifted from 1.25p to 1.525p.

**Webber Electro Components** yesterday launched a rights issue of 288,000 shares on the basis of one for every seven held at £1.80 each. In the six months to the end of last March, the group increased its pretax profits from £104,000 to £154,000 on sales up from £440,000 to £537,000. The board is paying a same-again interim dividend of 1.75p and expects to maintain the final 1.75p.

## Problem division under control says Blagden

**By Andrew Cornelius**

**Blagden Industries**  
 Half-year to 25.6.83  
 Pretax profit £1.2m (£1.06m)  
 Stated earnings 5.4p (4.3p)  
 Turnover £25.3m (£23.16m)  
 Net interim dividend 3.3p  
 Share price 106p down 2p  
 Dividend payable 3.10.83

Blagden Industries, the steel drums, plastics and chemicals manufacturing company, yesterday reported a 12.5 per cent increase in pretax profits to £1.2m in the six months to June 26. Mr Ronald Sparrow, chairman, said the group has improved contributions from all its mainstream businesses apart from the electroplating division, where management and quality problems led to losses of £239,000 at the interim stage compared with profits of £1,000 at the same stage last year.

However, he said that problems in this division are now under control and the losses will be at least halved in the second half of the year.

Elsewhere, improved profits came through from the drum and cask manufacturing div-

### WALL STREET

Symbol	Change	Price	Symbol	Change	Price
IBM	+1.25	245.75	IBM Corp	+1.25	245.75
AT&T	+0.875	101.625	AT&T	+0.875	101.625
GE	+0.125	52.625	GE	+0.125	52.625
Am. Tel. & Tel.	+0.625	58.625	Am. Tel. & Tel.	+0.625	58.625
Am. Express	+0.125	52.625	Am. Express	+0.125	52.625
Am. International	+0.125	52.625	Am. International	+0.125	52.625
Am. Overseas	+0.125	52.625	Am. Overseas	+0.125	52.625
Am. Pacific	+0.125	52.625	Am. Pacific	+0.125	52.625
Am. Satellite	+0.125	52.625	Am. Satellite	+0.125	52.625
Am. Tech. Serv.	+0.125	52.625	Am. Tech. Serv.	+0.125	52.625
Am. Tel. & Tel. Int'l	+0.125	52.625	Am. Tel. & Tel. Int'l	+0.125	52.625
Am. Tel. & Tel. Int'l	+0.125	52.625	Am. Tel. & Tel. Int'l	+0.125	52.625
Am. Tel. & Tel. Int'l	+0.125	52.625	Am. Tel. & Tel. Int'l	+0.125	52.625
Am. Tel. & Tel. Int'l	+0.125	52.625	Am. Tel. & Tel. Int'l	+0.125	52.625

## Improved trading and performance reflected in substantial increase in interim dividend

# Interim profits up by 36%

	6 months to 30 June '83		6 months to 30 June '82		Year to 31 Dec '82	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
TURNOVER	73,405	69,544	137,456			
OPERATING PROFIT	9,608	8,054	16,117			
Interest Paid	230	968	1,657			
Investment Income	9,378	7,086	14,460			
	159	106	326			
	9,537	7,192	14,786			
Share of Profits of an Associated Company	613	266	542			
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	10,150	7,458	15,328			
Taxation: Group Companies	3,773	2,595	4,133			
Associated Company	201	94	227			
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION AND BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	6,176	4,769	10,968			
Extraordinary Items	847	323	829			
PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO STOCKHOLDERS	5,329	4,446	10,139			
EARNINGS PER ORDINARY STOCK UNIT (Basic), adjusted for the 1:1 scrip issue	4.41p	3.71p	8.53p			

Year to 31 December 1982 figures are an abridged version of the unaudited audited accounts which were delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

In the first half of 1983 profit before tax was 36% up on the equivalent period of 1982.

Demand for bricks produced by London Brick products is buoyant. Deliveries of Oxford Clay fletton bricks are ten per cent up on last year and the order book is strong. Since May production has been increased and is now running ten per cent ahead of 1982. Impressive results in our non-fletton range have also been achieved with Weald Clay stock bricks produced by the Company's new plant at Clockhouse in Surrey. The refurbished Arley Works designed to make Gault stock bricks has also come on stream.

The two other new operating companies created in last year's reorganisation have made an excellent start. London Brick Engineering have won a £5.5 million contract to design, build and commission a brickworks in Swaziland with a production of 50 million bricks per year. Work has begun on site and shipments of machinery manufactured by London Brick Engineering in the United Kingdom will commence next month.

London Brick Property have successfully sold some 260 houses which were surplus to our requirements. The Proceeds of these sales will be received later in the year and the profit, amounting to approximately £2.5 million, will form part of the trading profit at the end of the year. London Brick Landfill continues to expand its operations and is making an important contribution to overall profits. Croydex is also ahead, helped by a growth in exports. At Banbury Alton the sale of Homes and Gardens this spring included write offs which are shown as an extraordinary item in the interim figures.

The results have benefited from a full six-months profits from our associated company Brick and Pipe Industries of Australia, which continues to do well.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.2681p (net) per Ordinary Stock Unit of 25p in respect of the year ending 31st December, 1983 (1982 0.9755p per Unit net). The dividend, which is adjusted for the Scrip issue, is 30 per cent up on that for 1982 and will be paid on 31st October, 1983, to members on the Ordinary Stock Register at 16th September, 1983.

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Privatization - 3: Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent, on problems facing the Government

Why rolling back the state frontiers is so tortuous

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor and former Energy Minister, has shown that political clout and determination can clear a path through the undergrowth. Yet selling off British Gas's oil assets has been a slow process with the opposition of the board and its chairman, Sir Denis Rooke, right.



take three or even four terms of office before the Government - despite the present stepping up of its privatization - can finally boast of success in its efforts (as it sees them) to bring the nationalized industries to book.

Even favoured state chiefs resisted some sell-offs

legal and political obstacles as well as false leads and the occasional decisive intervention of external circumstances.

few now doubt that they would have saved an enormous amount of time and trouble but at the time nobody could foresee the present conditions of oil glut, falling prices and Opec disarray.

In the event, it was not until last year that Mr Lawson was able to get his Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Act on the statute book, opening the way for the sale of Britoil and the British Gas North Sea assets.

At the same time it took nearly three years before officials finally found a way of sorting out the complex legal tangle of the participation agreements between BNOC and the oil companies, which were designed to give the state access to 51 per cent of all oil produced in the North Sea.

Unravelling then was a "Promethean task", according to Mr David Howell, Mr Lawson's predecessor as energy secretary, and a man whose indecisiveness is held by many to have contributed to the slow rate of progress.

With British Gas's oil assets, on top of similar legal and contractual problems, the Government has had to contend with the unstinting opposition of the corporation's board

to the sale of either Wyth Farm or the North Sea assets.

Chairman, Sir Denis Rooke has repeatedly denied that the corporation is employing delaying tactics - but it is evident that as an unwilling seller it has not hurried things along.

This is one reason why the Department of Energy has adopted the otherwise unlikely tactic of setting up its own oil company to hold British Gas's North Sea assets. It wants to make sure that it controls the disposal itself rather than risk leaving it to the corporation.

In fact, opposition from state industry chairmen is one of the toughest obstacles the Government claims to have faced in its privatization campaign.

Even favoured chairmen such as Sir Michael Edwards at BL and Sir Robert Atkinson of British Shipbuilders have resisted attempts to sell off their profitable operations in favour of the long-term benefits of preserving integrated corporations - a perfectly understandable tactic that has nevertheless effectively delayed the privatization process.

The Government has retaliated not only by appointing sympathetic state industry chairmen such as Lord King at British Airways to hurry through the privatization process, but also (in the case of Sir Walter Marshall at the CEBG for example) by setting them clear and publicly stated objec-

tives of introducing private capital into their operations. How far this succeeds in clearing the logjam remains to be seen.

The legislative and technical hurdles also remain, especially now that the relatively easy privatization candidates - such as Cable & Wireless which was already operated as a Companies Act company - have, by common consent, mostly been returned to the private sector already.

Unravelling oil pacts was a Promethean task

While the Government has powers to dispose of parts of BL, British Shipbuilders, British Steel and Rolls-Royce (and is pushing its British Telecom bill through Parliament again), it has still to find time for bills to privatize its second rank candidates, such as the National Bus Company, the Royal Ordnance Factories and the British Airports Authority.

The more radical long-term aims favoured by some right-wing ideologues such as breaking up the coal board and the

electricity industry are even further away.

According to one closely involved Whitehall official, the average lead time for preparing a corporation for privatization is between two and three years - and that is assuming it does not run into delay caused by general elections or political and technical mishaps.

The need to settle on a suitable capital structure can lead to protracted and bitter argument, as happened over Britoil, for example, while establishing suitable regulatory agencies for telecommunications or other natural monopolies such as gas and electricity can and does keep civil servants occupied for months.

In addition, the Government has to grapple with the market constraints of bringing a succession of large corporations to the stock market. Although the argument about crowding out is complex, it is clear that the British Telecom and British Airways issues will absorb more than half the funds investment institutions can spare for new equity investment over the next three to four years.

After Britoil and Amerasia, ministers are acutely sensitive to the need to get the timing and pricing of issues right, although with the election out of the way this may be something that can afford to treat with greater aplomb.

Despite these constraints, the Government is clearly confident that it will be able to push through an accelerated programme of privatization in the next five years.

Apart from being four years further down the "learning curve", Mr Lawson's experience with Britoil has shown - notwithstanding the peculiarities of the sprawling state oil asset portfolio - that political clout and determination can clear a path through the undergrowth.

Rightwing advocates of further plentiful doses of privatization continue to complain about the institutional obstacles to radical change, particularly in the Civil Service.

The Institute of Directors, for example, was exercised two years ago by the fact that privatization, while popular with the world at large, being held up by a few key enemies in key places.

They are concentrated not only in the Labour Party and among trade union officials but also at the "Yes Minister" level of the Civil Service and in the media, where they have an influence out of proportion to their numbers", claimed an internal memo. Even the facts, it seems, conspire.

Financial notebook

Identity crisis of index-linked gilts

A secure, long-term investment is all very well and good for those seeking such protection, but for market operators interested primarily in a quick return the attraction will be rather less. So it is with index-linked gilts. Their performance over the two years since they were launched has prompted the abundant City cynics to suggest that the absence of a bull market to date means the absence of one in the future. Index-linking is dismissed as a failure.

Leaving aside for the moment the long-term argument, it must be true that a market which has not generated significant profits for traders is also likely to be a market which has won few friends among genuine investors. Last year, of course, was an annus mirabilis in the conventional gilt market, when the index-linked gilts have brought long dated issues at the beginning of the year made a 50 per cent profit.

Index-linked gilts, by contrast, have languished since Sir Geoffrey Howe extended their favours to the populace at large in his 1982 Budget. The falling interest rates and declining inflation which enthused the conventional market were had for stocks whose raison d'être was protection against inflationary ravages. It has not been, therefore, the fault of index-linking as such that profits in that market have been scarce.

But it does not follow that profits will always be hard to make in the index-linked market. Attention is frequently directed towards nominal interest rates, but that begs the question of how the market sees index-linked stock. Should an index-linked security be regarded as a taxed interest stock, or should it be compared with other investments which are supposed to retain their real capital value (property and gold are cited, somewhat ambiguously)?

Obviously, index-linked gilts have qualities which set them apart from conventional government stock: not only is the real value of the capital guaranteed, but the interest rate is real to the extent that it is tied to the inflation-adjusted capital value of the bond. What matters, however, is the implication that a real gilt return should be compared

with real interest rates, expressed as the long term nominal interest rate minus anticipated inflation. Such rates, it can be argued, reflect the course of the real economy, whereas the nominal interest rates which set conventional gilt prices are chiefly at the moment a response to monetary phenomena. On the evidence of the past few months real long term interest rates are drifting upwards.

The circle is completed by the almost obsessive concern demonstrated by markets round the world for the state of the American money supply and Federal budget. A rise in nominal interest rates was expected for months and that superficially would be bad for all fixed interest securities. But what is important for index-linked securities is the relationship between the real interest rates and the redemption yield offered by the stock.

On the assumption of inflation running at 7 per cent redemption yields on the nine index-linked stocks in issue range from around 4 per cent for the 2 per cent I.L. 1988 to 5 per cent for the 2½ per cent I.L. 2016 yields on stocks due for redemption at the turn of the century are around £3.25. All other things being equal, the price of index-linked stock should start to go up when real long term interest rates fall towards these yields.

The catch, however, is that real rates may be declining because nominal rates are rising. In such cases conventional gilt prices could rise with index-linked prices.

But there are two major differences: nominal rates and real rates will not move with equal speed if they are not responding to the same impulses; and index-linked gilts have shown themselves in their brief history to be much more volatile.

A half market in index-linked stocks is, therefore, possible, but the complexities are such that the genuine long term investor might do well to sit tight. Index-linked gilts are certainly gilt-edged in the sense that the capital is guaranteed by the Government, but in other respects they behave rather differently.

Michael Prest

Table with multiple columns: Authorized Units & Insurance Funds, listing various financial instruments, their values, and other details.

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Uncertainty over teams for final Test match

England looking anxiously to Cowans and Thomas

There is even more uncertainty than usual about the final composition of the teams for the fourth and final Cricket Test match, which starts at Trent Bridge this morning.

David Thomas, Surrey all rounder, has his big chance

David Thomas, the Surrey all rounder, packed his bag yesterday to join the England Test team at Trent Bridge for the fourth Test against New Zealand.

The man to stiffen England's lower order

David Thomas, the Surrey all rounder, packed his bag yesterday to join the England Test team at Trent Bridge for the fourth Test against New Zealand.

Will Cram v Ovett be a repeat of Coe v Ovett?

It will detract from the stature of both Steve Cram and the world 1,500 metres champion as he goes for the world record.

'Americans tried to force confession'

Sydney (AP) - A three-man investigative team from the New York Yacht Club tried to bring political pressure on Dutch engineers to force a confession that they had designed the controversial America's Cup yacht.

First flat winner for Neil Kernick

Despite the fact that only two of the six 'Jays' (favoured to win) were in the race, Neil Kernick won the Be Hopeful Memorial Handicap for only 350 guineas at Ascot on October 16.

Beverly

- 2.15 AUGUST STAKES (3-Y-O colts; £785; 7) (12 runners)
1.01500 PANDA (A) (Sire) M Kingdon 8-10 ... D Grey 4
2.01500 CHERRY SEASON (S) (Sire) D (D) ... D Grey 4

Bath results

2.0 HOLIDAY STAKES (handicap; 2500; 10) 9/10
THE BOY by City Walk (posting - 11) ... D Grey 4

Brighton

- 1.30 SEAGULL STAKES (3-Y-O maidens; £2,076; 6) (13 runners)
1.01500 BALBA (A) (Sire) W Widdowson 9-10 ... G Starley 4

Beverly

- 2.15 TOLL GAVEL HANDICAP (posting; £785; 10)
MOONLIT BAY ch f by Palm Track ... M Jolly 1

Brighton selections

- By John Karter
1.30 SEAGULL STAKES (3-Y-O maidens; £2,076; 6) (13 runners)

FOR THE RECORD

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Dundee 1-0 Aberdeen.
SOVIET LEAGUE: Spartak 2-1 Dinamo.
WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Bayern Munich 1-1 Borussia Dortmund.

SPORT 19

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SOVIET LEAGUE: Spartak 2-1 Dinamo.
WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Bayern Munich 1-1 Borussia Dortmund.

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Pan-American Games: the beginning of the end of steroids?

Drug net that none can escape is tightening round the Olympics

Caracas (Reuters) - The introduction of new, stricter dope testing which has led to 11 weightlifting medalists from nine countries being stripped of their titles at the Pan American Games has wide implications for next year's Los Angeles Olympics.



Stripped of their medals: Nemezd Blanco, of Cuba, and Greavette, of Canada.

A West German team using the most sophisticated equipment seen at a big international sports meeting are responsible for dope-testing here and United States officials say the same methods will be used at the Olympics.

According to the Canadian team doctor, Jack Taunton, scientific advances in detection techniques mean that drug-taking athletes who would previously have passed dope tests will now be caught.

anabolic steroids within the past 90 days, they can now be detected," he said. "If the drug is injected into fat tissues to dissolve slowly and be effective over a longer period it could possibly be detected after an even longer period. Dr Taunton warned: "If any athlete wants to compete in Los Angeles and is taking drugs, he'd better stop now."

The Cologne-based dope-testing team at the Pan-American Games has apparently caught many weightlifters by surprise with the effectiveness of its methods using a gas chromatograph and mass spectrometer.

Dr Taunton said he hoped the affair would serve as a warning to athletes, adding: "I hope I'm not being overly but I would like to think that this is the beginning of the eradication of drugs in sport."

Dr Taunton, apart from helping build up muscle tissue, give their users a big psychological boost, he said; but they are also medically dangerous and lead to increased risk of liver disease, heart failure and sterility in men.

up the effects and increase their aggression. LOS ANGELES - Dr Tony Daly, vice-president for medical services of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, said: "New medical equipment means anabolic steroids, which strengthen muscles, can be detected four months after they have been used. Athletes had previously been able to use the steroids only three weeks before a competition without being picked up."

It was doubtful, he added, whether athletes who had failed to pass drug tests at the Pan-American Games would be able to compete in the Los Angeles Games as amateur federations usually imposed a ban of at least a year for drug use and the Games were less than a year away.

US affected by altitude

Caracas (Reuters) - The American swimming team have won all but four gold medals at the Pan-American Games here and set three world records in sprint events.

The swimming events were held at the United Nations Park pool, which is more than 2,500ft above sea-level. According to the United States' chief coach, Trevor Tiffany, long distance swimmers would be unable to start quickly because they would then have difficulty getting oxygen.

came remotely close to a world record, though this partly reflects the strength of the East German women. Tracy Catkins, for example, was more than 15 seconds adrift of the 400 metres individual medley record.

Success came, however, in the men's sprints. Steve Lundquist, aged 22, took six-hundredths of a second off the world 100 metres breaststroke record he had set only 11 days previously. His new time was 2min 02.28sec. On Sunday, Rick Carey, aged 20, had broken his own 100 metres backstroke record for the third time in just over two weeks with a time of 55.19sec.

Canada reach final and could face England

England now know the route they must take to become Commonwealth champions for the first time. To tonight's semi-final round they play New Zealand, whom they beat three months ago in Japan. If they reach Saturday's final they will have to play Canada, whom they beat on Tuesday.

The Canadians reached the final with an 83-82 win over Australia in Christchurch last night. The two biggest teams in the competition, Australia and Canada, were the only two to play each other under the lights but at the end, when the Australians slipped out of the Cowles stadium, the bruises they carried were mostly to their pride.

During the last world championships, in which Australia finished fifth, they beat Canada with the substantial help of some inspired shooting from Ian Davies. Dave Arsenault saw the game.

Proof of equestrianism success

Glanvyn Strawson, the champion young rider of Europe, heads her all-girls squad of six chosen to represent Britain at the European Young Riders three day event championship which takes place at the Burghley Horse Trials, sponsored by Kenny Martin, from September 7-11.

Miss Strawson, who comes from Lincolnshire, missed Badminton because her two horses, Sparrowhawk and Minstrow, were lame and then missed the final trial at Leck Park, Derbyshire a fortnight ago, because of an injury to her shoulder. In between injuries, however, she managed to fit in a successful outing to Holker Hall earlier this month which earned her a place in the team.

Karen Straker, the European junior gold medalist, with Running Bear, has deserved her place in the squad. She was the youngest rider at Badminton where she went clear across country and finished 16th. Polly Schwerdt, from near Exeter, with Dylan II, also made good her claim for a team place after her Badminton performance. Dylan, now 13, is only 15 hands high but has a tremendous jump.

Paul Harrison

TENNIS

Nastase's Open reprieve

Jericho, New York (Reuters) - Ilie Nastase has appealed against an \$8,500 fine and suspension of 42 days imposed on him by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council last weekend. The appeal will be heard after the United States Open tournament which begins next week, and the Romanian will therefore be eligible to take part in the Open.

The suspension, which applies only to grand prix tournaments, was handed out to Nastase following disputes over fine calls to a tournament at Newport, Vermont. He admitted that he broke his racket by hitting it against the ground in a match against Danny Saitz which he lost. "I hit the racket on the ground said, 'I didn't mean to break it. McEnroe hits his racket, but the No 1 guy can get away with it."

BASKETBALL

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Jacques Toogood, on Carl Nicholas, Camilla Murdoch, on Rugan and Juliet Seaton on Croz, make up the six from which the team of four will be chosen.

Paul Harrison

Paul Harrison

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Media Appointments. The Art Gallery of Western Australia. Curator of Paintings. The Art Gallery is calling for applications for the above vacant position.

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HORIZONS

The Times guide to career development

How to run your own show - buy out the boss

Starting your own business has been in vogue for the last few years. The idea is fine in theory, but putting it into practice is exceptionally demanding...

Corinne Julius on one way of becoming your own employer

financial and sales directors and often the production manager. There are normally two or three prime movers, with perhaps the backing of up to six other colleagues...

well as working out ways to make the deal attractive to the vendor, your banker should help you to negotiate on matters that will affect the long-term future of the company...

The pressure is on

greater satisfaction, but it also means greater worry and tension about the results of your decisions. Your new role can also affect working relationships...

Lurking skeletons

existing manager will usually have a good idea of whether there are any skeletons lurking in the cupboard. If the project seems viable your backers are likely to continue...

Ripe to buy

There are generally three types of company susceptible to a buy-out. Firstly there is the family company, run by a group of professional managers...

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WEDDINGS, etc. on Court and Social Page 25

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Frank Barrie who stars in Macready Channel 4, 10.30pm

MACREADY (Channel 4, 10.30pm), Frank Barrie's one-man operation... the 19th century actor, filmed on stage...

CHOICE uses as a yardstick to measure how far the erosion of freedom, privacy and truth has come since the book was written 35 years ago...

Coward's BRIEF ENCOUNTER (Radio 4, 3.00pm) is now beginning to look like something from Never-Never Land...

TONIGHT'S PROM 7.30 Beethoven: Overture, Laocoon No 2, and Violin Concerto in D major...

BBC 1 6.00 Breakfast News digest, sport, weather and traffic reports... 6.30 Breakfast Time with Nick Ross and Frank Bough...

TV-am 6.25 Good Morning Britain with Anne Diamond and Nick Owen... 8.55 News headlines, followed by Street easy learning with The Muppets...

ITV/LONDON 8.25 Thames news headlines... 12.00 Open University (unit 8.10) Klein's Unification of Geometry...

BBC 2 6.05 Open University (unit 8.10) Klein's Unification of Geometry... 6.30 Car 54, Where Are You? Comedy series about two cynical American police patrol officers...

CHANNEL 4 5.30 Car 54, Where Are You? Comedy series about two cynical American police patrol officers... 6.00 Bewitched: Darrin's boss tells Darrin that he prefers the werewolf to the witch...

Radio 4 6.00 News Briefing... 6.10 News: The Archers... 6.20 News: The Archers... 6.30 News: The Archers...

Radio 3 6.55 Weather... 7.00 Morning Concert: Part 1... 7.05 Morning Concert: Part 2...

Radio 2 6.00 News on the hour every hour... 6.30 News: The Archers... 6.40 News: The Archers...

BBC 2 6.05 Open University (unit 8.10) Klein's Unification of Geometry... 6.30 Car 54, Where Are You? Comedy series about two cynical American police patrol officers...

CHANNEL 4 5.30 Car 54, Where Are You? Comedy series about two cynical American police patrol officers... 6.00 Bewitched: Darrin's boss tells Darrin that he prefers the werewolf to the witch...

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Radio 3 6.55 Weather... 7.00 Morning Concert: Part 1... 7.05 Morning Concert: Part 2...

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BBC 1 6.25 Wales Today... 6.30 News... 6.40 News... 6.50 News...

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ENTERTAINMENTS THEATRES OPERA & BALLET CONCERTS

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ART GALLERIES CINEMAS

Doe tells why he wants to stop Gaddafi

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

General Samuel Doe, the Liberian President who was this week flown by Israeli jets from the obscurity of Monrovia to the Holy Land, has announced plans for a political initiative against Colonel Gaddafi of Libya, whom he accused of plotting his assassination.

"Gaddafi is a man who would like to lead the whole continent of Africa, which is impossible to do, but he still uses his natural resources to buy arms, ammunition, and to spread explosives," he said in an interview with The Times.

"We will do our best politically to sabotage his operations in the region," he added.

The general said that evidence had been uncovered that the Libyan leader had inspired an assassination attempt against him in 1981, a year after he came to power in a violent coup.

He said that the ringleader, Major-General Thomas Wehsevo, his former second in command had been found with explosives, tried and executed "in the due process of the law".

Later explained by an aid to mean execution by firing squad.

But despite ignorance of some of the nuances of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Liberian leader has not shied from speaking at a state banquet of the "God-given right of the Palestinian people, including their right to a state of their own."

He told me yesterday that it was imperative for the Israelis and the leaders of the Palestine Liberation Organization to sit down for face-to-face talks. "We feel that this issue can be solved by peaceful negotiations rather than on the battlefield," he said.

Despite his youth and undistinguished international reputation, General Doe exuded confidence in the stability of Liberia, which he pledged would have a new constitution and democratic elections in 1985—and a determination to resist Arab threats. "My conscience is clear and the decision about Israel is in the interests of my people," he said. "I have no fear."

He would not disclose details of the assistance he will be given.



Punch and Judy fight cuts in arts

The Government was accused yesterday of being "boneheaded and philistine" for cutting money to the arts, at a demonstration accompanied by a target-man-the F word and Judy.

Hattersley tipped for knife-edge victory

The Sunday Times assumed the union would back Mr Meacher, the New Statesman assumed the union, which voted for Mr Healey in 1981, would back Mr Hattersley.

Mounting terror in Pakistan

Continued from page 1. Roads were blocked by protesters outside rural towns.

Letter from Etna Town lives up to volcano's example

The rebellious giant buried under Etna has stopped his snorting and nothing more menacing remains for the moment than a thin stream of grey smoke as if Etna, the giant of the legend, was lying back to enjoy a quiet cigarette.



General Doe: Looking for new glasses.

The bespectacled president, at 33 still one of the youngest heads of state in the world, spoke of the dangers to the rest of Africa if the Libyan regime were to be permitted by France to succeed in partitioning Chad.

He angrily accused Colonel Gaddafi of spending large sums of money to foment unrest in vulnerable states, surrounded by subordinates and the opulent upholstery of the Hilton's presidential suite, the former master sergeant gave the impression of enjoying the

impression of enjoying the

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements: The Duke of Gloucester visits Kings Cliffe Airfield, Peterborough, to unveil a memorial to airmen who died during the Second World War and who were stationed at the airfield, 11.

Paintings of people by Douglas Hill and landscapes by Cathbert Bell

Paintings of people by Douglas Hill and landscapes by Cathbert Bell; Halesworth Gallery, Steeple End; Mon to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 3 to 6 (ends Sept 2).

Exhibitions in progress

Photographs of posters and paper ephemera of old Derby, Derby Museum and Art Gallery, The Strand; Tues to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Sept 17).

New books - paperback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week: Indian Summer, Lutyens, Baker and Imperial Delhi, by Robert Grant Irving (Vale, £2.95).

Roads

London and South-East: A307: Market Place closed, part of Kingston one-way system. A602: M26: One carriageway shared east of Sevenoaks.

Weather

An anti-cyclone will build up over Britain: A trough of low pressure will reach N Scotland later.



Table of high tides for various locations including London Bridge, Aberdeen, Belfast, Cardiff, etc., with columns for AM, HT, PM, and FT.

Table titled 'Around Britain' showing weather forecasts for various regions like St Andrews, Scarborough, London, etc., with columns for Sun, Rain, and Cloud.

Table titled 'Abroad' showing weather forecasts for various international locations like Alicante, Algiers, Amsterdam, etc., with columns for C, F, and other weather indicators.

Crossword puzzle No 16,217 with grid and clues. Clues include: 1 Premier going round the circle in this tube (5), 4 Demonstrates round about in Conservative parts outside London (7), 9 Nine great characters from Orange (9), 11 Sharp noise is true maybe in strange tune by Tchaikovsky? (10,5), 12 Take it the animal heard you and me (6), 14 Reading undergraduates doing this? (8), 17 Former unruly rioter is outside (8), 19 Let Labour see content of money-market (6), 22 Royal bodyguard's regimentals meant one less to be changed (9-2-4), 24 Composer rejects Cockney's comment on weather (8), 25 Hurried back using the oars, reducing the gap thus (5), 26 Is a Hanoverian king indeed disputed? (9), 27 Gift takes Poles round America (5).

Anniversaries section listing deaths of various historical figures like Birtch Bret Harris, Sir Henry Morgan, and others with dates and brief biographies.

Table titled 'The pound' showing exchange rates for various countries like Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, etc.

The papers section listing various newspapers and their circulation figures, including The Washington Post, The New York Times, etc.

Lighting-up time and Yesterday sections providing information about lighting-up times and a recap of the previous day's news.